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HERALDS OF SALVATION

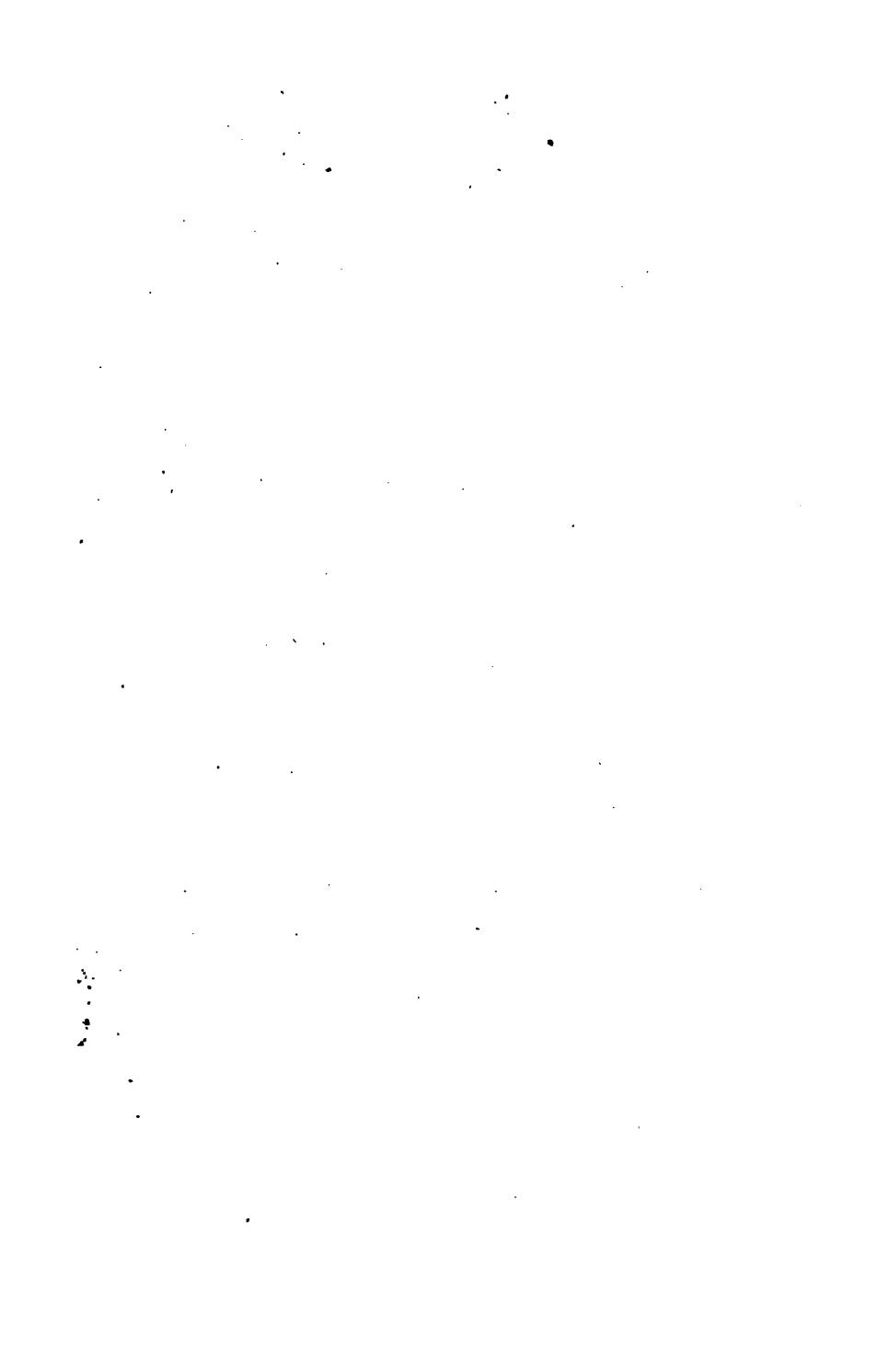
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REV. W. MOISTER.



HERALDS OF SALVATION.





Thomas Coke

HERALDS OF SALVATION:

BEING

Brief Memorial Sketches

OF

WESLEYAN MISSIONARIES

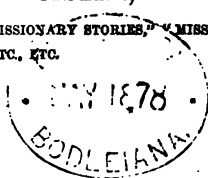
WHO HAVE DIED IN THE WORK

SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE ENTERPRISE.

BY THE

REV. WILLIAM MOISTER,

AUTHOR OF "MISSIONARY PIONEERS," "MISSIONARY STORIES," "MISSIONARY
ANECDOTES," ETC., ETC.



London:

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE OFFICE,

2, CASTLE STREET, CITY ROAD;

SOLD AT 66, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1878.

210 . m . 669 .

LONDON:
PRINTED BY WILLIAM NICHOLS,
46, HOXTON SQUARE.

PREFACE.

THESE brief Memorial Sketches of deceased Missionaries have been written under the impression that a volume of such records would be interesting, not only to surviving relatives and friends, but also to many other people who delight in tracing the progress of the Gospel in distant lands. The materials here used have been derived from the obituaries inserted in the "Minutes of Conference," from memoirs in Magazines, from separate biographies, from communications addressed by the Missionaries to the General Secretaries of the Missionary Society; and from letters received by the Author himself from Missionaries and their bereaved friends, hundreds of which he has preserved. It was necessary greatly to compress the information thus made available, but it is hoped that enough is said of personal history, individual character, and scenes of labour to prompt the reader to search the records of the great Society in whose service these Missionaries were engaged. Those records are full of interesting information.

The preparation of this work has been a labour of love. So many of these devoted brethren were the writer's own personal friends, colleagues, or associates, that he has often been deeply moved whilst sketching their career. He is now in the evening of life, and feels his loneliness as he thinks how many of his companions and fellow-labourers have been called away. He is thankful for God's preserving mercy, and indulges a hope of meeting in "the better country" those who have gone before, and of joining with them in singing the wonders of redeeming love. If the reading of the book yield half as much pleasure and profit as the writing of it has yielded, the object of its publication will be answered; and God alone shall have all the praise.

W. M.

WOODBINE COTTAGE,
NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT,
December 4th, 1877.

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Heralds of Salvation

SENT FORTH BY

THE WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

FIRST DECADE.

1789-1800.

William M'Cornock.

THE first Wesleyan-Methodist Missionary who died in the foreign field was the Rev. W. M'Cornock. In a brief account of his early life, written at the request of Mr. Wesley, and published in the eighth volume of the "Arminian Magazine," he gives some interesting particulars of the leadings of Divine Providence. He was born in Ireland in the year 1746; and his father, being in a respectable position, gave him a good education, with a view to his going into the ministry of the Established Church. This was set aside, however, by the dissipated habits in which he indulged for several years. His intemperance and folly caused him successively to lose several situations in which he might have done well as a schoolmaster, or as a private tutor. At length he was arrested in his course of sin by being brought into contact with the Methodists, whose powerful preaching and faithful exhortations were made the means of his salvation. His repentance was deep and sincere, and, through faith in Christ, he experienced a change of heart and of life which became manifest to all.

He was no sooner converted to God himself than he began to promote, by all possible means, the salvation of others. This he

did first by private conversations, exhortations, and prayers, and afterwards by the public preaching of the Gospel, to which he was evidently called. In 1778 Mr. Wesley appointed him to a Circuit; and at Enniskillen, Sligo, Ballyna, Clones, Lisleen and other places in his native land, he did good service for the infant cause, and was made the means of spiritual good to very many.

When he had faithfully laboured in this way with great success for ten years, he was led to offer himself as a Missionary for the West Indies. He accompanied Dr. Coke, Mr. Baxter and some other brethren to the island of Dominica, where they landed on the 19th of December, 1788, with a view to commence a Methodist Mission. The Missionaries proceeded at once to the house of Mrs. Welby, a kind friend with whom Dr. Coke had become acquainted on a former visit, and from whom they received a cordial welcome. They met with an equally favourable reception from His Excellency Governor Orde, on whom they called the same day; and in the evening, the way being quite clear, the zealous Doctor preached in a hired house to a good congregation. A religious service was conducted also on the following Sabbath, and after that Dr. Coke and his party embarked for Antigua, and Mr. M'Cornock was left alone to prosecute the work in Dominica.

This devoted pioneer evangelist gave himself to his work with commendable zeal and diligence: the Lord blessed him with success. Among his hearers were a few persons who had been members of the Methodist Society in the island of Antigua, and who were glad once more to have the privilege of Christian fellowship. These, with twenty-four inquirers who had been awakened under his preaching, were formed into a Class which he met weekly himself, whilst he continued his aggressive movement on the surrounding mass of superstition and sin. Of the manner in which he discharged his duties, Dr. Coke records the following testimony: "Mr. M'Cornock, whom we left at Dominica, immediately began his labours, with a zeal which plainly evinced that he had the salvation of souls at heart. Multitudes flocked to hear him, and many received the word with joy. His preaching was blessed in a particular manner, and owned of God in the awakening of many souls. He was indeed 'instant in season and out of season,' according to the

Apostle's command ; so that within the space of a few months, through his instrumentality, not less than one hundred and fifty persons were led to inquire what they must do to be saved."

Mr. M'Cornock did not confine his labours to Roseau, the capital of the colony ; but made frequent visits to the country districts, preaching on the estates both to the Negro slaves and to their owners, as he had opportunity. He extended his journeys as far as Prince Rupert's, a populous but very unhealthy village or hamlet, about thirty miles from Roseau. It was when on a visit to this place, about seven months after he had commenced his labours in the island, that he was attacked with malignant fever which proved fatal. "He continued preaching to and exhorting the people for about three days after the fever commenced. Then he took to bed and lay two days delirious, when our blessed Lord took the dear man to Himself." He died at Prince Rupert's in August, 1789, deeply regretted by all who knew him.

Robert Gamble.

The Missionary career of the Rev. Robert Gamble was very brief, and it is a remarkable circumstance that, in the records of the Church which he so faithfully served during his short day of labour, no precise mention is made of the time or manner of his death. He was, nevertheless, remembered with much affection by the people among whom he toiled, suffered, and died ; and I, having laboured on the same ground many years afterwards, have succeeded in collecting a few particulars concerning him which may interest the reader.

Mr. Gamble was a zealous young Minister who, after labouring two or three years in England, nobly offered himself as a Missionary to the West Indies in 1788. He and the Rev. M. Lumb went out with Dr. Coke in the latter part of that year, and the party arrived in safety at Barbadoes early in December. The Doctor remained for a few days in Barbadoes to make arrangements for the commencement of a Mission ; but the other two brethren proceeded at once to St. Vincent's, the island which was to be the scene of their labours. They were followed by Dr. Coke on the 11th, who immediately after landing set off

with Mr. Baxter to the windward part of the island to make arrangements for commencing a Mission among the Caribs. The next day they were joined by Mr. Gamble and Mr. Clarke. This was Mr. Gamble's first journey into the country, which interested him much. On returning to Kingstown he fixed his principal residence there, and, in conjunction with Mr. Lumb, Mr. Clarke, and others, he laboured with much zeal and success among the poor Negroes both in town and country. Mr. Gamble was a most amiable and promising young Missionary, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him; but he had scarcely laboured twelve months in St. Vincent's when a spirit of persecution broke out which was the means of bringing his valuable life to a premature end. He was always regarded by the friends of Missions on the spot as a martyr to the cause he loved so well. Whilst the persecution was raging he ventured one day in 1791 to go from Kingstown a few miles into the country, to meet some Christian people. Returning in the evening he was way-laid by wicked men, who most unmercifully beat him, and thrust him down a frightful precipice. He was so injured that he was not able to move till the following morning. He then managed to crawl to the hospitable mansion of Mr. Claxton, the father of Mrs. Lilywhite, who kindly furnished these particulars and added that "he returned to Kingstown, but it was only to tell his tale of suffering and crime, and then lie down and die! In the arms of sorrowing friendship his redeemed spirit passed away to receive a martyr's crown, in that place where 'the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.'"

Thomas Werrill

Was a zealous young Irish Missionary whom Dr. Coke took out with him to the West Indies on his second voyage to those islands. Having visited St. Vincent's and other islands on their way, they landed in Jamaica on the 5th of January, 1791, and found Mr. Hammett labouring with considerable success, notwithstanding the persecution to which he was exposed. Mr. Werrill threw himself into the work with unsparing energy, generally preaching five nights in the week and almost every morning, in addition to his Sabbath labours, to say nothing of

pastoral visitation and five or six Classes which he constantly met in consequence of the lack of suitable Leaders. Such herculean labours could not continue long in the climate of the West Indies. What his friends apprehended who saw how he exerted himself at Spanish Town, Port Royal, and Kingston, actually came to pass. Before the end of the year he sickened and died,—the first of a large number of devoted Missionaries in Jamaica who have fallen a sacrifice to the climate or to their well-meant but self-consuming toil.

The end of this servant of God was in beautiful harmony with his short but brilliant career. He was attacked with fever on the 6th of November, after preaching and administering the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Having rested an hour or two in the afternoon he felt a little better; and against the entreaties of his friends, he in the evening preached to a large congregation and met the Society. Early on the Monday morning he preached again; but at noon the fever returned with increased violence. In the evening he sent for his friend Mrs. Smith, who immediately called a physician whose utmost endeavour to check the disease was without success. During the following week the young Missionary suffered much bodily pain and some mental conflicts. As his end approached, he gained a complete victory over his spiritual foes and rose to a blessed state of confidence in the Saviour. In a letter to Dr. Coke Mrs. Smith gives the following account of the closing scene: "About twelve at night we thought him expiring. I said, 'I trust you now feel that God is Love.' His pulse, which had left him, returned, and he exclaimed, 'Blessed be God, I do.' I answered, 'And you find His strong arm supporting you in these strong conflicts.' He said, 'Indeed I do: I have the assurance that Christ is my righteousness, and full and perfect salvation.' A few minutes before seven in the evening of Tuesday the 15th of November, 1791, he sweetly fell asleep; for surely death had no sting for him. Though the room was filled with weeping friends, not one thought him dead, till I cried out, my soul being filled with gratitude to God for so wonderfully supporting my much valued friend,—

'Happy soul, thy days are ended,
All thy mourning days below:
Go, by angel guards attended,
To the sight of Jesus go.'"

James Wray.

I have not been able to find any particulars of the early days of the Rev. James Wray. But it is known that, having been duly examined and approved, he was received on trial for the Methodist Ministry in 1781. After labouring for a few years in England, he entered the foreign work. In 1787 he was appointed as a Missionary to British North America. At that time the Methodist Mission in Nova Scotia was in its infancy, and had been worked chiefly by brethren from the United States, two of whom, Messrs. Garretson and Cromwell, were withdrawn about the time of Mr. Wray's appointment. Though it may appear strange, yet for some reason the arrival of a Missionary from England was looked on with jealousy; and in a letter from Mr. Wesley to one of the Missionaries, the autograph of which is now before me, I find this remarkable expression: "Alas, my brother! One just come from Halifax informs me that they made objection to James Wray that he is an Englishman! O American gratitude! Lord, I appeal to Thee!" There is also other evidence that the path of Mr. Wray was not always smooth in Nova Scotia; but he was enabled to rise above petty jealousies. For several years he watched over the interests of the Mission with zeal and diligence, as the Presiding Elder, or General Superintendent. At the same time, he indefatigably preached the Gospel, alternately at Shelbourne, Birchtown, Cape Negro, and Barrington, and was blessed with success.

At length circumstances occurred which rendered a change necessary; and in 1791 Mr. Wray received an appointment to the West Indies. He entered upon his new sphere of labour in the true Missionary spirit; but it would appear that his constitution was not fit for a tropical climate, for his course of labour was soon run. He died in the island of St. Vincent, in the year 1792, sincerely regretted by his colleagues and the people of his charge. Making mention of him in a letter to another Missionary Mr. Wesley says: "Mr. Wray is a workman that need not be ashamed. If he has not much learning, he has what is far better, uprightness of heart and devotedness to God."

Abraham Bishop.

Few men have crowded a larger amount of useful ministerial labour into a short space of time than the Rev. Abraham Bishop, who was called to his reward in heaven in less than three years after he had entered upon his work as a Christian Missionary. He was a native of Jersey, and with a heart glowing with love to God and zeal for the salvation of men, he offered himself for foreign service in the Lord's vineyard, and had the honour to be the first Methodist Missionary appointed to New Brunswick in British North America. He arrived in the City of St. John, the capital of the colony, on the 24th of September, 1791, and met with a cordial reception from a few pious Methodists from England who earnestly desired a faithful Gospel Ministry in the land of their adoption. Among these he commenced his labours, and soon extended them to others who were strangers to true religion, many of whom were brought to a saving knowledge of the truth through his efforts. Such was the rapid progress of the work that there is reason to believe that, within the short space of six months, more than two hundred persons were converted to God. Having fitted up a preaching place, gathered a congregation, and formed a Society in the city which soon numbered eighty members, Mr. Bishop visited the various scattered settlements on the banks of the river St. John, where his ministrations were greatly blessed, and where he laid the foundation of a work which has continued to the present day.

Mr. Bishop had thus laboured with acceptance and success for nearly two years in New Brunswick when he was called to remove to Grenada in the West Indies, where there was required a Missionary acquainted with the French language. He therefore took leave of a people who were much endeared to him, and with promptitude, although not without regret, embarked for his new sphere of labour. Dr. Coke, at whose request Mr. Bishop was removing, being anxious to accompany him to his appointed Station, met him at St. Vincent's, whence they proceeded together. They arrived at Grenada on the 8th of January, 1783, and met with a kind reception from the Rev. Mr. Dent, the Rector of St. George's, with whom the Doctor had been

previously acquainted, as well as from the small Society which had been formed by Mr. Owen, the Missionary who had previously occupied the Station.

A few months after his arrival, Mr. Bishop was able to report that he had a pleasing measure of prosperity, and that a place of worship was nearly completed. In a second letter to Dr. Coke he says: "I thank God I am enabled to tell you that He has done wonders among us lately. Many souls have been set at liberty, and we have now in town and at the Point one hundred members in Society. Our chapel is finished, and will contain nearly four hundred persons; but at times it is too small." It is a mournful fact, that Mr. Bishop did not live to finish the letter from which these sentences are taken. Almost before the ink was dry the Master called him to rest from his labours. On the same sheet the Rev. Mr. Dent wrote: "Thus far our dear departed brother had written, about the first week in June. On the 11th he was seized with a violent fever, and died at the chapel-house about two o'clock on the morning of Sunday the 16th. He died as he had lived, in the faith and hope of the Gospel." At the following Conference, in recording his death, his brethren said of him: "He was one of the holiest young men upon earth, walking continually as in the presence of God, and glowing with intense desire for the salvation of sinners. He was 'instant in season and out of season,' a useful Preacher all the day long, without the least breach of modesty or decorum."

Daniel Graham

Was a warm-hearted, zealous young Irishman, who, after labouring with acceptance for several years in his native land, offered himself as a Missionary for the West Indies. In the estimation of Dr. Coke and others, Mr. Graham was a young man well adapted in body and mind for the important sphere of labour to which he was designated; but his race was soon run, and He who regards the motives by which His servants are actuated, no doubt accepted the sacrifice which was offered, without requiring much labour at the hands of the young evangelist. In the early part of the year 1793 Mr. Graham arrived in Barbadoes to strengthen the

hands of Mr. Pearce, who had been labouring there for some considerable time amid numerous discouragements. He entered upon his work with zeal, faithfully preaching the Gospel of Christ both in town and country, to bond and free, as he had opportunity ; but before many months had elapsed he was seized with yellow fever, and died after a few days' illness. He finished his course on the 5th of August, 1793, deeply lamented by a loving people who had hoped that he would be long spared to labour among them. His ministerial brethren recorded concerning him that "he was a man of great piety, and of a crucified spirit. But the Lord in His mysterious providence was pleased to take him to his great reward, in the prime of life and usefulness, a few months after he had begun his labours in the West Indies."

Benjamin Pearce.

On his third visit to the West Indies, Dr. Coke landed for the first time at the island of Barbadoes, on the 4th of December, 1788. He had with him three zealous young Missionaries, one of whom, the Rev. Benjamin Pearce, was intended for the place just named. Whilst sitting at the inn to which they had been directed, as strangers in a strange land, Mr. Pearce recollected that a company of soldiers, some of whom were pious men whom he had known in Ireland, were stationed at Barbadoes, and might be of service to them. He accordingly went out in search of them and met with two privates. They were soon afterwards joined by a serjeant, who on seeing Mr. Pearce remembered him in an instant, and rejoiced exceedingly to meet him in that distant land. The Missionaries were delighted to learn that these pious soldiers had begun to work for Christ, and that their godly efforts had made such a favourable impression on the mind of Mr. Button, a merchant, that he had generously given them the use of a large room in which to hold their meetings. In this room Dr. Coke preached the same evening to a large and attentive congregation, and in it also Mr. Pearce commenced his ministry in Barbadoes on the following Sabbath morning. In the course of a day or two, and after a run into the country, and a visit to His Excellency

the Governor, Dr. Coke embarked for St. Vincent's, the place to which the other Missionaries had previously gone, and Mr. Pearce was left alone to prosecute his work.

Every thing seemed to favour the young Missionary at the commencement of his career, and he soon succeeded in forming a small Society in Bridgetown and also in extending his labours to several places in the country. Writing to Dr. Coke soon afterwards Mr. Pearce says: "The congregations are larger than ever; and such crowds fill the room, and flock about the door where I preach, as I never had before. It is truly glorious. Many of the first people in the town come to hear, and seem to listen with much attention. Judging from appearances, we have reason to believe that a thousand hearers would attend on a Sunday evening if the room in which we preach were sufficiently large to afford them accommodation." Mr. Pearce was thus encouraged to attempt the erection of a new chapel; and he ultimately succeeded; but this effort to give permanence and extension to the Mission evoked a spirit of opposition and persecution on the part of the enemies of the Gospel, which continued for years, and which sometimes threatened to destroy the work entirely. But the devoted Missionary was wonderfully sustained and blessed in his work, and the cause of God continued slowly and steadily to advance.

In 1791, Mr. Pearce was succeeded in Barbadoes by the Rev. Matthew Lumb, and he proceeded to the island of Antigua, where he laboured during the next two years. On the 1st of May, 1794, this devoted servant of Christ departed this life under circumstances peculiarly affecting. Having been appointed to the island of Grenada, he paid a visit to the place to prepare for the removal of his family; and he died at sea on his way back from an attack of yellow fever. Mrs. Pearce wrote to Dr. Coke: "In great affliction of mind I write to you these few lines, to acquaint you with the death of my dear husband. He left Barbadoes on the 9th of February, for Grenada; but would not consent that I should accompany him, on account of the war. From that island he wrote me word that he would come for me; and meeting with an opportunity to sail to Martinique, and thence to Barbadoes, he embraced it. The vessel left Martinique on Saturday, the 26th of April. He was taken ill on the Monday, and left this world on the Thursday follow-

ing. My loss is indeed great ; but I trust, far greater is his gain. Those who were about him say he died truly happy in God, and exhorting them to prepare for their latter end. O that I may live as he lived, that I may die as he died, and that we may meet in heaven to part no more for ever ! ”

John Cook.

The next Wesleyan Missionary who fell a sacrifice to the trying climate of the West Indies was the Rev. John Cook, a zealous and devoted young man who had scarcely entered upon his new sphere of labour in a foreign land when he was called by the Master to the “better country.” Mr. Cook was highly recommended for the Ministry and for the Mission work by the Preachers, Stewards, and Leaders in his Circuit ; and at the Conference of 1794 he received an appointment to the island of Dominica. When he reached the West Indies, however, the interests of the work rendered it necessary that he should be stationed in Tortola, a brother having been already removed from that island, to supply the vacancy in Dominica. Almost immediately after reaching his destination Mr. Cook was seized with the fatal yellow fever which was then raging in the island. A lodging was provided for him on a hill where the air was considered particularly salubrious ; two eminent physicians were called to attend upon him ; and every expedient was resorted to that seemed likely to check and subdue the disorder ; but all was in vain. After lingering for five days, he was released from his sufferings, and his redeemed and sanctified spirit entered that place where the inhabitants shall no more say, “I am sick ;” but “where all is calm and joy and peace.”

Bartholomew M'Donald.

The ministerial and Missionary career of the Rev. B. M'Donald was brief but eventful. Having offered himself for foreign service and been appointed by the Conference to the island of Antigua in the *West Indies*, he embarked for that place at

Liverpool in the autumn of 1797. The first Sabbath at sea was spent by the crew not in devotional exercises but in endeavours to put the ship into a state of defence against a French privateer which threatened to attack her. This danger having passed away, the frail bark had to contend with winds and storms for three weeks, with scarcely any intermission, much to the discomfort of the young Missionary and other passengers. Soon after the weather had somewhat moderated, they fell in with another French privateer with which they had a severe contest. Their vessel was boarded and they were taken prisoners. Mr. M'Donald was plundered of everything he possessed ; and his books were torn in pieces. He himself was landed three days afterwards at Guadaloupe and cast into a loathsome prison. At first he had to sleep on bare boards, and to live among a number of unhappy wretches of the most depraved character. After a few days, however, at the request of a French nobleman, he was removed to more comfortable quarters in the jailor's dwelling-house, where he remained till he was taken to Basseterre. Here his fellow-prisoners were mostly English, and he was permitted to read the Scriptures and preach to them. Being at length set at liberty on the French island of Martinique, in a state of perfect destitution, he was sorely perplexed to know how he should get to Antigua. Walking along the street one day in great distress, and endeavouring to lift up his heart in prayer to God for deliverance, he met a gentleman to whom he ventured to make known his case, and who generously lent him £10 to enable him to proceed to the place of his destination. Another unknown friend provided him with a supply of clean linen. And after a narrow escape from being taken prisoner again, he safely reached by boat the harbour of St. John in the island of Antigua, on the 9th of December.

Mr. M'Donald greatly enjoyed the change in his circumstances, and entered on his work in the true Missionary spirit. In a letter addressed to the Rev. George Morley about three months afterwards he gave a glowing account of the state of the Mission, the piety of the Negroes, the Covenant service, the Lovefeasts, &c., concluding with these words : "Notwithstanding the difficulties I met with in my voyage, I do not regret coming here ; but am amply repaid for all my toils by a sense

of God's goodness, and by being made a happy witness of the revival of His work in this island. Young Preachers are deterred from coming here by a thousand frightful chimeras, which have no existence but in their own imaginations. The men of the world brave every danger and despise all hardships in order to acquire the riches that perish. And shall the servants of the living God be less zealous in the glorious cause of truth? Nay, far be it from them. If we fall, let us fall fighting for a heavenly crown." In this spirit of self-sacrifice and entire devotedness to God, Mr. M'Donald had laboured in Antigua about twelve months when he was attacked with an epidemic fever which proved fatal, and he was cut down in the flower of his days, and in the prime of his usefulness. The noble-minded Missionary did "fall fighting for a heavenly crown," and he won the prize,—a crown of glory that fadeth not away. He finished his course in the early part of the year 1799.

James Richardson

Was a young Missionary of great promise who received an appointment to the island of Jamaica at the Conference of 1798. The necessary preparations having been made for the voyage, he embarked in good health and spirits; and he landed in safety at Kingston on Good Friday, 1799. He entered upon his work with the full purpose of labouring with all his might to bring souls to Christ; but he had only been in the island seventeen days, preached four times, and met a Class once, when he was smitten down by fever; and after lingering a few days he finished his course with joy, trusting in the merits of Christ for full salvation, and resigning his soul into the hands of his faithful Creator.

John Dutton

Was a pious and devoted young Minister, who, after labouring in England for a few years, proceeded in the autumn of 1799 on a visit to the West Indies, to attend to some family

affairs. He landed in Jamaica in his usual health, and was so much pleased with the appearance of the country, and the state of the work of God among the poor Negroes, that he purposed to devote himself thenceforth to the Missionary enterprise. He had been in the island only a few weeks, however, and had scarcely commenced his labours, when, in the mysterious providence of God, he also fell a sacrifice to the climate. His last illness was of short duration, and under his sufferings, which were at times very great, he was graciously supported by the presence of the Saviour till the final conflict was over, and he entered into the joy of his Lord.





SECOND DECADE.

1801—1810.

Joseph Bocock.

It has already appeared that at an early period of the Methodist Mission to the West Indies several young men of great promise were sacrificed to the climate. None of them was more regretted than the Rev. Joseph Bocock. He was a young Minister of deep piety, respectable gifts, and an amiable disposition. Having been appointed by the Conference of 1801 to a Station in the Antigua District, he took leave of his friends, and embarked for his distant sphere of labour, buoyant with hope and fully resolved to spend and be spent in the cause of Christ. But how shortsighted is mortal man ! This zealous servant of God had scarcely entered the field when the Master released him from his toil, and said, "It is enough ; come up hither." He had only preached a few times in St. Kitt's, and once or twice in Dominica, when he was attacked with the malignant fever common in the country, which baffled the skill of the physician, and soon proved fatal. Under the pain and suffering which he endured he was graciously supported by the presence of his Saviour. His patience, resignation to the will of God, and holy triumph in death, made a deep impression on all who visited him ; and the respect in which he was held by the Society and by the inhabitants of Roseau generally, was such that a subscription was made to defray the expenses of his funeral, and many gentlemen of position, as well as the people of his charge, followed him to the grave with manifestations of genuine sorrow, being convinced that they had lost a sincere friend and an affectionate Pastor.

John Burkenhead

Is described as a young man of "sound judgment and amiable disposition, who understood well the Methodist doctrine and discipline, and who possessed great integrity of mind." In the year 1800 he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and, after due examination and trial, was appointed to labour in the West Indies. His faithful and earnest ministry in the island of Antigua was owned and blessed by God to the salvation of many souls. In a letter to Dr. Coke, dated the 9th of May, 1802, he gave the following account of the state and progress of the work: "I bless God, I have enjoyed a good state of health since I came here, and have been enabled to travel through the island, though our labour is very hard. I have to preach ten or eleven times a week, besides meeting five Classes. We want more help. We have bought land to build a new chapel at Parham. Mr. Baxter says it never was so well with the cause in Antigua as now. Our congregations are so large that some hundreds are obliged to stand out of doors. On Easter Sunday the congregation was supposed to be about four thousand. While I was preaching from John xx. 15, many experienced that the Lord was risen indeed. The work in this island is rational and scriptural; the people's experience is sound and good, and similar to that of our friends in England. We have added eight hundred members to the Society during the past eighteen months, and are joining more every day. We scarcely ever preach but some are convinced and others set at liberty. Sometimes the power of God descends upon the congregation in a wonderful manner; the people fall down and lie as if they were dead, till the Lord bids them arise, and then they praise Him with joyful lips. Our prayer-meetings have done much good. There is such a spirit of hearing as I never saw in all my life. I believe the Lord is about to do a great work in the earth. May He hasten the happy period when all flesh shall see His salvation!"

The zealous Missionary had thus laboured for about two years when he was suddenly cut down by an epidemic fever which proved very fatal, especially to Europeans, seven or eight of *whom died every day* for some time. Mr. Burkenhead was

graciously supported in his last brief illness, and finished his course with joy in the month of December, 1803. One instance of the forgiving spirit of this holy man of God has been preserved and is worthy of record. On one occasion, returning late at night to St. John's from a country appointment, he was attacked by a drunken soldier who stabbed him in a very dangerous manner. The soldier was detected, tried, and condemned to severe punishment, the officers being determined to make an example of him; but at the earnest intercession of the Missionary the punishment was remitted and a faithful warning given instead. Thus was exemplified the spirit of Him who said, "Father, forgive them: for they know not what they do."

Philip Debell.

Of all the Methodist Missionaries who died of yellow fever in the West Indies during the early part of this century, none was more respected while living, or more regretted when dead, than the Rev. Philip Debell. He earned for himself a good report in his native land before he went abroad. It is recorded of him that, "while at home, his ministry was so attended by the congregations where he preached, as to confute the false sense so often put upon the Saviour's words,—'A prophet is not without honour save in his own country.'" He was highly honoured in his own country, and his loss was sincerely deplored when, constrained by the love of Christ, he offered himself as a Missionary to the West Indies, for which he embarked soon after the Conference of 1801.

In the Leeward Islands, it is believed, many souls were won to Christ through his preaching. In Tortola, Antigua, and St. Kitt's, his labours were owned by God. In the island last named he had much to suffer. His colleague, the Rev. John Brownell, writing in his journal under date of the 27th of November, 1802, says: "I was informed by note that Mr. Debell had been knocked down by Mr. ———, who, having been reproved by Mr. D. for behaving ill at the chapel, struck him several times and left marks of violence upon him. The blood was drawn in three places, by a whip supposed to have been made of twisted cow-skin. I returned *immediately* to Basseterre, and found that

Mr. Debell had taken out a warrant against the persecutor, who was bound to appear at the Court of Grand Sessions." Although the law took cognizance of this daring outrage, this notice of it may serve to show what the Missionaries had to endure at that early period.

Early in the following year Mr. Debell died. Writing on the 22nd of January, 1803, Mr. Brownell says: "This has been a painful day to me, as I received two notes informing me that the brethren Bradnack and Debell were both dangerously ill. I left Old Road for Basseterre in the evening, amidst the wind and rain, and found Mr. B. a little better, and Mr. Debell extremely ill." On the 25th he says: "Every symptom of approaching dissolution appeared in our excellent brother Debell. I conversed with him, and commended his departing soul to God in prayer. 'I am passing,' he said, 'through deep waters, but the Lord is on my right hand.' He then repeated the following line of a favourite hymn :

'Farewell, vain world, I'm going home.'

Then strong convulsions rendered him insensible, and in about ten minutes put an end to all his sorrows and pain. Thus died Philip Debell after a residence of about ten months in this island. He was a man of few words in conversation, grave in his deportment, and fearless in the cause of his Divine Master. As a Christian he was deeply devoted to God ; and as a Preacher he was eminently active and zealous. Living he taught us how to live, and dying he confirmed the truth he had delivered." Mr. Debell being the first Missionary who died in St. Kitt's, the event produced a great sensation among the people. So highly was he respected that a large concourse of all classes of the community, including five Clergymen, attended his funeral, and five brother Missionaries and an old friend carried him to his grave, amid the sobs and sighs of a simple but loving people, who mourned as those who have lost a father and a friend.

" Servant of God, well done !
Rest from thy loved employ :
The battle fought, the victory won,
Enter thy Master's joy."

Thomas Richardson.

It is generally admitted that the island of Dominica is one of the most unhealthy in the West Indies. It is not surprising therefore that it should have had its full share of the fatal epidemic which was so generally experienced in that part of the world in the year 1803. It was there and at that time that the Rev. Thomas Richardson, an eminent young Methodist Missionary, finished his course. The history of the brief but active career of this zealous servant of God is one of mournful interest. After preaching the Gospel with acceptance for some time in the neighbourhood of York and at other places in his own country, Mr. Richardson became a Missionary, and received an appointment to the West Indies. He embarked at Liverpool on the 13th of November, 1802, and arrived in Antigua on the 1st of January, 1803. He preached a few times in that island, and then proceeded to his appointed Station, Dominica, where he landed in safety on the 2nd of February. He was received with great affection by the Society and congregations, and began his labours with pleasing prospects.

Nor was he disappointed. Shortly after his arrival in Dominica, Mr. Richardson wrote to his friends at home as follows : " In my excursions to the country I find the people ripe for the Gospel. Some have told me that they walk thirty miles to get instructed in the Christian religion ; and have continued to serve the Lord from the first time that they heard a Gospel sermon. In some places, where they have no preaching at all, they have erected commodious houses of prayer. Some of the slaves have been severely punished for attending their meetings ; but it has no effect but to make them more vigorous in serving God. I have really been astonished at the propriety and power with which they speak of the Lord's dealings with their souls. O ! if the young men in England did but know how these poor heathen pant and thirst for the Gospel of Christ, they would not be so reluctant to leave their country, to help a wretched people who are groaning for redemption. Were I at home, and in the most affluent circumstances, I would, without hesitation or delay, leave all and haste to this burning climate, in obedience to my Master's call. If I might have a passage gratis, and the

best Circuit in England on my return, I would reject the offer for the sake of preaching the Gospel to my dark and tawny brethren in these islands."

We have evidence here that Mr. Richardson was made of the genuine metal, which gives out the true, unmistakeable Missionary ring. It is impossible to say what would have been the results of the continued labours of an evangelist so devoted. But before the end of the year the ardent young Missionary finished his course and entered upon his heavenly rest. He died of yellow fever, after five days' illness, happy in God, on Sunday the 9th of October, 1803, much regretted by all classes of the community, but especially by those who had been brought to a saving knowledge of the truth through his labours.

James M'Mullen

Was a native of Ireland, where he had laboured as a Minister with zeal and fidelity for about fifteen years, when, in 1804, he offered himself for the foreign work, and was appointed as the first Wesleyan-Methodist Missionary to Gibraltar. He appeared well suited both in body and in mind for the important enterprise; but his subsequent career was very brief and was marked by circumstances of mournful interest. Soon after the close of the Conference at which he received his appointment, Mr. M'Mullen, with his wife and infant daughter, embarked for Gibraltar, where they arrived in safety after a somewhat stormy passage. On landing, instead of entering on their labours as they had expected, the Missionary and his wife were called to witness a scene of misery and distress appalling to contemplate. The settlement had been visited with a desolating pestilence in the form of yellow fever. The plague ran through the garrison like an armed man, whose approach meant death. Every possible sanitary precaution was used by the Government, but apparently to little purpose, as multitudes continued to fall before the scythe of the destroying angel, and there was scarcely a house in which there were not one or more dead. Water and provisions became exceedingly scarce, the people being afraid to leave their dwellings.

Such was the state of Gibraltar when Mr. and Mrs. M'Mullen arrived. They were kindly received and entertained at the house of Mr. Michael Caulfield, a pious Methodist, who did everything in his power to make them comfortable; but their circumstances may be more easily imagined than described. Writing to Dr. Coke under the date of October 1st, the Missionary says: "This day we made our dinner of a little barley boiled, and God only knows whether we shall be able to get that to-morrow; for the shops are all closed, almost all business is laid aside, and people are afraid to approach each other, whilst melancholy or despair sits on every countenance. Such, my dear Sir, is our present awful condition. My little child was seized with the disorder five days after we landed. I was in a friend's house when my child was taken ill. What an hour of distress! But 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.'" Notwithstanding this fearful state of things, the Missionary was anxious to open his commission, and he preached twice on the first Sabbath after he landed, to small congregations in a dwelling-house, and paid all possible attention to a Class of twelve members which he found had previously been formed.

Whilst thus tending the flock, which was being rapidly diminished by the fell destroyer, and embracing every opportunity of doing good, the shepherd himself was smitten. After lingering for seven days in great suffering, Mr. M'Mullen died, happy in God, on Wednesday the 17th of October, 1804. He was soon followed to "the better country" by his devoted wife, who, worn out with constant watching and waiting on her husband and child, finished her course ten days afterwards, in the full triumph of faith. Through the kind Providence of God the Missionary's little orphan girl was spared alive, conveyed to England, and adopted into the family of good Dr. Adam Clarke. She grew up to be a comfort to her friends, and an ornament to the Church. She was married to the Rev. John Rigg, and became the honoured mother of Dr. James H. Rigg, the present Principal of the Wesleyan Training College, Westminster.

John Baxter.

In connection with the establishment and early history of the Methodist Mission to the West Indies, the name of the Rev. John Baxter will go down to posterity with honour, inasmuch as he was a principal agent in introducing the Gospel and extending its influence in those lands. He was originally a shipwright in H.M. dockyard at Chatham, and embarked for the West Indies in 1778, not as a Missionary, but to follow his worldly vocation in an important situation for which he had been selected by Government. On arriving in Antigua, however, he soon recognized the hand of God in bringing him to a place where there was a pressing demand for the exercise of those gifts with which he was endowed as a preacher of the Gospel. He found in St. John's the remnant of a Society and a congregation which had been collected by the late Nathaniel Gilbert, Esq., who had expounded the Word of God to the edification of all his hearers. He, moreover, extended his labours to various parts of the island, earnestly seeking to win souls for Christ. His evangelistic labours were prosecuted not only on the Sabbath, but on week evenings, when the poor slaves were at liberty to attend the meetings; and his worldly calling was followed with unabated diligence.

When Mr. Baxter had thus toiled on, single-handed, among the poor Negroes, for eight years, and had gathered hundreds of converts into the fold of Christ, an event occurred which was destined, in the order of Divine Providence, to change entirely the current of his future life. This was the arrival in Antigua of Dr. Coke and three Missionaries, who had been driven thither by contrary winds when on their way to Nova Scotia. They landed at St. John's on the morning of Christmas Day, 1786, and, walking up the street, met Mr. Baxter on his way to a service in a chapel which had been built chiefly with his own hands. The meeting was one of mutual joy and satisfaction, and, recognizing the finger of God as pointing to new and promising fields of labour, Dr. Coke, after a visit of inspection to several of the islands, made arrangements to occupy as *many of them* as possible without delay. From this time Mr.

Baxter relinquished his worldly business and devoted himself entirely to the work of the Lord, and was increasingly successful in winning souls for Christ. He laboured in different islands as the claims and necessities of the work required his services ; but especially in St. Vincent's, where, after a fruitless effort to establish a Mission among the Carib Indians, his ministry was very successful among the Negro slaves. He was moreover frequently employed under the direction of Dr. Coke in visiting the respective Stations to introduce new Missionaries, to visit and succour those who were afflicted, and to promote the general interests of the work. His extensive knowledge of the West Indies, together with his sound judgment and discretion, and the warm and lively interest which he felt in the Mission cause, admirably fitted him for this kind of labour. At length his health, which had generally been very good, began to fail. Repeated attacks of fever induced great bodily weakness and languor, which the best medical skill sought in vain to relieve. While he was laid aside from active service his mind was kept in peace, and he often expressed his entire confidence in the providence and grace of God. He finished his course with joy at Antigua, on the 7th of November, 1805, after labouring in the West Indies for nearly twenty-eight years.

John Hawkshaw.

Seldom has a Missionary had a more chequered course than the Rev. John Hawkshaw. After labouring about four years in Barbadoes and other islands in the West Indies, he was appointed by the Conference of 1805 to commence a Mission in the colony of Demerara. He arrived there on the 30th of September, and met with a cordial reception from some persons previously acquainted with Methodist doctrine ; but the Dutch Governor peremptorily prohibited his preaching in the colony, and required him to return to Barbadoes in the mail-boat by which he had come. Lonely and disappointed, he retired from his presence deeply wounded. In a letter shortly afterwards addressed to Dr. Coke, he alludes in the most touching manner to the "many tears which he had shed" on the occasion, and

expresses his fervent hope that the Lord may "soon open a way for the Gospel in that country, where there are many who would be glad to hear it." His prayer was afterwards gloriously answered.

Mr. Hawkshaw accordingly returned to Barbadoes on the 12th; and having now no appointment, and not wishing to be idle, he proceeded to Dominica to assist Mr. Dumbleton, who had more work on his hands than he was able to do. He arrived at Roseau on the 8th of December, and after a few days he proceeded to Prince Rupert's Bay, about thirty miles from Roseau, where his services were more particularly required. There he found a commodious chapel, recently erected, a congregation of a thousand people, and a Society of five or six hundred members. He was now in a congenial element, and entered on his work with a full determination to spend and be spent in the cause of his Divine Master. He had only laboured at Prince Rupert's about a month, however, when he was seized with the same malignant fever that had proved fatal to so many other Missionaries.

When he had for eight days suffered from the fever, it was thought desirable to remove him to Roseau, where in the opinion of the doctor he might possibly recover. Accordingly a boat was procured, and he was gently laid on a mattress. When he had been at sea about two hours, he appeared to be in a dying state, and was therefore taken on shore, and laid upon a bed. Soon afterwards he expired, while the brethren were commending his soul to God in prayer. His last words were: "My confidence in God is firm. I know I am born to greater joys." His remains were taken to Roseau and interred the following day in the chapel yard. A large concourse attended, and Mr. Dumbleton improved the solemn event by an impressive sermon from the Apostle's exclamation, "*For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*"

Thomas Dumbleton.

Amid the general mortality of early Missionaries in the West Indies it is pleasing to meet with a few honoured men who were favoured to spend several years in that interesting field

of labour. One of these was the Rev. Thomas Dumbleton who was appointed to the Antigua District at the Conference of 1794, and who spent twelve years in faithfully preaching the Gospel to the poor Negroes, and in unwearied efforts to promote their social and spiritual improvement. His first Station was St. Kitt's, where his labours were blessed to the conversion of many souls. Both in this island and in Tortola, to which he afterwards removed, he lived in the affections of his colleagues and of the people among whom he laboured, and his name was long held in loving remembrance.

But it was in the trying and unhealthy island of Dominica that this devoted Missionary did and suffered most in the cause of Christ. Writing to Dr. Coke from that place on October 6th, 1806, he says: "I am just recovering from an attack of cramp and a fever, which I caught at Roseau, a few days after the hurricane, through my feet being wet from day to day. On Tuesday, September 9th, about seven o'clock in the evening the sky became wholly overcast, and tremendous flashes of lightning accompanied with heavy blasts of wind presaged to the more experienced part of the inhabitants an approaching storm. But few expected it would be so fatal in its consequences. The wind continued till ten o'clock, when it began to be attended by a most dreadful fall of rain, the effect of which, accompanied by a pitch-dark night, vivid flashes of lightning, and the roaring of thunder and a violent shock of earthquake, was truly awful. Soon afterwards, to complete our misfortunes, the river Roseau, increased by the heavy rains, overflowed its banks and inundated the town in every direction. The destruction then became general, for every house which obstructed its passage was thrown down or carried away by the torrent, and a great proportion of the inhabitants perished. No pen can paint the horrors of that night, and the spectacle which presented itself on the return of daylight was dreadful beyond description. There have perished in the town of Roseau 8 whites, 57 persons of colour, and 66 slaves,—131 in all, as far as ascertained; but numbers are still missing. The damage done to property is also very great. This awful visitation has awakened some a little, and our chapel at Roseau is crowded. Some appear convinced of sin and will, I hope, soon be brought to a sound conversion."

Mr. Dumbleton did not long survive this awful hurricane. The fever with which he was seized terminated in his death. During his last illness he bore his sufferings with marked fortitude and patience. When visited by his pious friends and asked if he had any doubts concerning his acceptance with God, he replied that his soul was fixed upon the Lord Jesus, and as to doubts he had not any. To the physician he said, "Do not you think I am dying?" The physician observed that he had displayed so much patience during his illness, that he presumed he was not afraid to die. He replied, "No, Sir: for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Shortly afterwards he resigned his soul into the hands of his Redeemer, and departed this life deeply regretted by thousands to whom his ministry had been made a blessing.

John Robinson.

This young Missionary also had a short and useful course of service in the West Indies. His first appointment was to the island of St. Kitt's, where he was received, on his arrival from England, with an affection by which he was greatly encouraged. Many of the poor Negro slaves and others were won to Christ through his preaching. Nor were his diligence and usefulness less marked in Barbadoes where he was next appointed to labour, and where he arrived in the early part of the year 1807. But in the course of a few months his work was done, and he was summoned to his eternal rest.

His last illness and death were attended with circumstances of more than ordinary interest. The following account was sent to Dr. Coke at the time by a friend: "On Thursday, July 2nd, Mr. Robinson rode to brother Chapman's, about seven miles from Bridgetown, and in the evening preached. He exerted himself much during the discourse, which was observed to be more solemn and energetic than usual; and after singing several hymns with the family he retired to rest, in good spirits, and apparently in good health. When he arose next morning he complained of severe indisposition, and was prevailed on to return to bed. Medical aid being called in, he was found to be in a bilious fever, and all possible means were made use of for his relief and recovery, but without effect. The disease was irresistible and

raged with increased violence ; but he bore his sufferings with great firmness and true Christian fortitude. On the near approach of death, he observed, alluding to his agony, 'It is a hard thing to die, but I shall be more than conqueror.' His last request addressed to the friends around him was, 'Praise God on my account, for I have not a doubt of my acceptance.' In the article of death itself he was enabled to triumph. Suddenly rising upon his knees in bed he exclaimed aloud, 'I am more than conqueror, I am more than conqueror !' and immediately gave up the ghost. 'Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his.'" In this glorious manner, Mr. Robinson finished his course on earth, on the 5th of July, 1807, after a short illness of only three days.

Henry Evans.

This young man, who also was cut down in the days of his promise, was born at Wolverhampton on the 12th of April, 1772. He gave his heart to God in early life. He laboured for some time at home as a Local Preacher, and was sent out as a Missionary to St. Kitt's in 1803. There he laboured with acceptance and success for nearly two years, and it is believed that many from among the poor Negro slaves especially will be his joy and the crown of his rejoicing in the day of the Lord. But it was in the island of Tortola to which he was next appointed where his noblest triumphs were won, and where there was such a large ingathering of precious souls into the fold of Christ through his instrumentality. There also he over-exerted himself and laid the foundation of that malady by which his useful life was brought, it was feared, to a premature close. He regarded neither fatigue nor danger, while engaged in the blessed work of saving souls, but his zeal and exertions were too great for the climate. After over-exerting himself, wading through deep water and riding home in the hot sun, he was seized with a violent fever which resisted all the power of medicine, and terminated in death, in the course of a few days.

During the last illness of Mr. Evans the welfare of the Society was near his heart ; and he often alluded to the great and good work to which *his life was consecrated*. He enjoyed peace with

God and had a blessed hope of eternal life beyond the grave. Two days before he died he expressed himself as being very happy and praised the Lord for His goodness to him. And as the time of his departure drew near, and his remaining strength gradually diminished, he lifted up his hands in token of victory, and quietly fell asleep in Jesus. His funeral was attended by a large concourse of people, many of whom mourned over the loss of their beloved Minister with overflowing hearts. Mr. Evans was a married man, and soon after his interment his bereaved widow returned to her native land, and the members of the large Society in Tortola were left for some time as sheep having no shepherd, till a Minister was sent to carry on the work so auspiciously begun.

Thomas Owens.

Among the few Missionaries who were favoured to labour for several years in the West Indies at an early period, and to return to their native land, was the Rev. Thomas Owens, a man of remarkable industry and perseverance. Having laboured for some time in Ireland he, in 1791, received an appointment to the island of Grenada, where his services were highly appreciated by all classes. He was tempted to leave the Methodist Mission, but firmly declined the offer. Dr. Coke says: "Mr. Owens was highly esteemed by General Matthews the Governor, whose generosity prompted him to reward both his talents and his zeal. It happened at this time that the living of Carriacou, one of the Grenadines, was vacant. This was offered to Mr. Owens, if he would go to England, under his Excellency's recommendation, and be ordained by the Bishop of London. But Mr. Owens, influenced by a sense of duty, with all the fortitude of a man of God, expressed his deep sense of the Governor's generosity, nobly declined the offer, and chose to continue a poor dependent Methodist Preacher. The living of Carriacou is worth about £400 per annum, a sum which is regularly paid by the treasury of Grenada. To this must be added the surplice fees; which perhaps, on an average, will nearly equal the above sum."

Regardless of filthy lucre and of the applause of man, Mr. Owens continued his labours in Grenada, St. Vincent's, Tortola,

St Kitt's and other islands for the comparatively long period of twelve years. At length the failure of his health rendered it necessary for him to return to England. On entering the home work, however, he found that his physical strength was inadequate to the duties which devolved upon him; and he was obliged to retire from the full work of the Ministry. The later years of his life were marked by much bodily suffering of a distressing kind. At length the last messenger came to his release; and he finished his course in the year 1808.

James Alexander.

He was a young Minister of ardent zeal and great promise, whose friends had anticipated for him a long and honourable career. But the thoughts of God are not as our thoughts. He who sees the end from the beginning and knows what is best for His people, ordered things otherwise. Mr. Alexander had only just commenced his labours in Nova Scotia when, early in the year 1810, he sickened and died. It is stated that "his end was triumphant."

John Charrington.

Another young Missionary who was called to rest from his labours almost as soon as he had entered upon them, was the Rev. John Charrington. He is characterized by those who knew him as "a young man of solid piety and deep seriousness." He was appointed to the island of Nevis in 1810. He arrived in good health and entered upon his work in the true Missionary spirit; but before many months had elapsed he was cut down by the fever peculiar to the tropics. He died in peace at Charlestown on Sunday the 23rd of September, 1810, much regretted by the people of his charge, who had fondly hoped that he would long be spared to labour among them.



THIRD DECADE.

1811—1820.

Dermidd M'Dermidd

WAS a zealous young Scotchman. He was called at an early age to labour in the Lord's vineyard, and had an ardent zeal for the salvation of souls. When he went to the West Indies he was "a young man of good understanding, deep piety, and sound experience, and a very acceptable preacher." He laboured far beyond his strength, and had not been long resident in the tropics when it was clearly seen that, unless he should relax his efforts, his course would soon come to an end. He laboured to instruct the poor Negroes from day to day, and took long journeys under the burning sun, and soon became quite unfit for work. In the hope that a voyage might be the means of restoring his health, he embarked for North Carolina; but before the vessel reached her destined port he sank beneath the weight of his afflictions. He died "in the full triumph of faith" in the year 1812, and his body was consigned to a watery grave.

William Cooper.

Ireland has produced a host of noble Missionaries, of whom many have bravely fallen at the post of duty, and some continue to this day. One of those who were recommended by the Irish Conference at an early period was the Rev. William Cooper, who seemed to be well suited in both body and mind for the foreign work. He was a man of deep piety and fervent zeal. He arrived in the West Indies in the latter part of the year 1811, and laboured there with great zeal and usefulness for a time; but his course was soon run. Within a year after his arrival he fell a victim to fever. He was labouring in one of the Virgin Islands,

in the Tortola Circuit, at the time of his attack, and as soon as the Rev. Mr. Turner, the Superintendent, heard of his illness, he took with him a skilful physician and hastened to his aid. But when they arrived at his Station they found the young Missionary trembling on the brink of eternity, beyond the hope of recovery, and committed his spirit into the hands of his gracious Saviour.

George Warren.

The first Wesleyan-Methodist Missionary who fell a sacrifice to the pestilential climate of Western Africa was the Rev. George Warren, whose career was short but interesting. From a child he knew the Holy Scriptures, and found them able to make him wise unto salvation. He also began early to make known to his fellow men the things belonging to their peace ; and in that employment he never grew weary. After labouring for several years as a Local Preacher in his own country he was sent out, in the year 1811, to Sierra Leone to commence a new Mission.

Having arrived at the place in peace and safety, he reported to the Committee his reception and prospects. He says: "We landed at Sierra Leone on the 12th of November at five o'clock in the afternoon, having been out from Liverpool fifty-two days, without calling at any other place in our way from that port to this settlement. On going on shore we were met by the Colonial Chaplain, to whom we were introduced by the Captain of our ship, and who received us in a very friendly manner, and has since shown us several marks of kindness and respect. Before we proceeded to call upon any other person in this place, we waited, in company with our Captain, on Governor Maxwell, by whom we were received in a very affable manner." He then proceeds to relate how he found out the principal Methodists who had been brought from British North America, and at whose request he had been sent as a Missionary to the colony, and how in connection with them he commenced his evangelical labours among the people.

For some months Mr. Warren enjoyed tolerable health ; and he succeeded, by the blessing of God, in laying the foundation of a work which has continued to advance from that day to this.

He visited several of the Negro villages among the mountains, where he collected congregations, and formed Societies, and was enabled to win many souls to Christ. Whilst thus engaged in arduous Missionary labour, and in forming plans designed to extend the work of God on the Western Coast of Africa, Mr. Warren succumbed to an attack of malignant fever. He died happy in God at Free Town on the 23rd of July, 1812, after residing little more than eight months in the colony.

William Driver.

William Driver was born at Leintwardine, in Herefordshire, on the 2nd of November, 1773. In his youth he removed to Woolwich, where he was induced by a friend to hear that Gospel which was made the power of God to his salvation. In the course of time he returned to his native place where there was then no preaching. In order to hear the Word he had to go to Ludlow, which is several miles distant. He therefore used means to bring the preaching nearer to his father's house, hoping that the Word might be made a blessing to his relatives. A Local Preacher was induced to visit the place, and the foundation of a good work was laid, which continued to prosper in following years. Mr. Driver afterwards removed to Shrewsbury, where he became acquainted with the Rev. John Willis, who helped him to find his way into the Ministry. He offered himself as a Missionary to the West Indies, and, at the Conference of 1811, was appointed to the island of St. Christopher, where he landed on the 8th of February, 1812. There he met with his old friend Mr. Willis who had previously entered the Mission field, and the renewal of their acquaintance was a pleasing event to them both.

Sandy Point was Mr. Driver's Station during his residence in St. Christopher's, and the year he spent there was marked by religious progress and the conversion of many souls. At the District Meeting of 1813 Mr. Driver was appointed to St. Eustatius as the successor of his friend Mr. Willis, and he arrived at his new Station on the 12th of February. On Sunday the 14th, he preached to a crowded congregation from Romans i. 16. Concerning this service Mr. Willis says: "I thought him particularly lively, and was surprised to see the improvement he had

made during the short time he had laboured in St. Christopher's. His whole soul appeared engaged in his Master's work." It is a mournful fact, however, that this sermon proved to be not only the first but also the last that Mr. Driver was permitted to preach in St. Eustatius. Immediately after preaching he complained of a pain in his head which was shortly followed by a violent attack of fever. He lingered for a few days in great pain and weakness, and then died in peace on Wednesday the 17th of February, 1813, in the fortieth year of his age and the second of his ministry. Just before he expired his friend and brother asked him if Christ was still precious, when he immediately replied, "Yes, precious, very precious;" and the last words he was heard to utter were, "All is well, all is well." His lonely widow was left to return to her native land.

Thomas Coke, D.C.L.

Thomas Coke was born at Brecon, in South Wales, on the 9th of September, 1747, and from his childhood was trained for the Christian ministry in the Church of England. Accordingly on leaving the University of Oxford he received episcopal ordination, having previously taken his degree as Doctor of Civil Law; but for several years he had no regular pastoral charge. At length he was appointed to the curacy of South Petherton, in Somersetshire, and proceeded to his allotted sphere of labour with the full intention of discharging his duties in a faithful and conscientious manner, although he was but imperfectly acquainted with the Scriptural way of salvation. It was whilst there and at an early period of his public ministry, that Dr. Coke was led to an experimental knowledge of God as his reconciled Father. From this time he preached the Gospel with an energy and a power such as he had never manifested before. The earnestness and fidelity of his manner gave umbrage to some of his hearers, and led, much to his regret at the time, to his removal from South Petherton. But even this event appears to have been permitted by the over-ruling providence of God for a good purpose; for it resulted in his becoming acquainted with Mr. Wesley, with whom he cast in his lot; and

he thenceforward occupied a much wider sphere of usefulness than he could ever have had as the Minister of a parish.

Having assisted Mr. Wesley for some time in various departments of the work at home, visiting and regulating the Societies in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, he was well trained for the higher and more important office of General Superintendent of Foreign Missions, to which his life was thenceforth entirely devoted. In this capacity he crossed the Atlantic eighteen times, to say nothing of the numerous inter-colonial passages among the West Indian islands, which were performed for the purpose of conveying Missionaries to their respective Stations, inspecting the state and progress of the work, and counselling, comforting, and encouraging the brethren as their various circumstances required. Meanwhile the support as well as the direction of the Methodist Missions depended chiefly upon the efforts of Dr. Coke ; and on the occasion of each of his visits to England, he might be seen going from door to door, soliciting contributions to the Mission fund ; whilst he devoted thousands of pounds of his own private property to the same object, and pleaded the cause with an earnestness and a pathos which affected all who heard him.

When Dr. Coke had been thus engaged for nearly thirty years, and at a time of life when most men would have thought of indulging in a little repose, he conceived the grand idea of a Methodist Mission to India. Financial and other difficulties caused the Conference to hesitate. But the zealous man was so earnestly bent upon the project, that he generously offered to meet the expense of the undertaking from his own private fortune to the extent of £6,000. Having obtained the sanction of his brethren, he embarked for India with six young Missionaries, on the 30th of December, 1813 ; but before the termination of the voyage he was called to his reward in heaven. He was found dead in his cabin on the morning of May 3rd, 1814, having, it was supposed, been taken off by a fit of apoplexy. His removal was almost a translation. Like Enoch of old, " he was not, for God took him,"

John Davis

Was appointed to Jamaica at the Conference of 1813, but did not leave England till the 9th of March in the following year. Calling at Madeira and Barbadoes on the way, he landed in safety at Kingston, on the 1st of May, after a pleasant passage of fifty-one days. Just then the day was beginning to dawn, after a long night of persecution in Jamaica. Writing to the Rev. Joseph Benson immediately after his arrival, he says : " Here I found myself surrounded by a numerous and affectionate people, who rejoiced at the prospect of having the doors of the Lord's house once more opened for their reception, after having been shut nearly seven years. The strong conviction I felt, that the Lord had called me to the work, and sent me hither, removed every doubt from my mind respecting the ultimate success of my endeavours to re-open the house where prayer had been wont to be made." Earnestly bent upon this desirable object, and anxious to proclaim the glad tidings of salvation in the city of Kingston, the zealous Missionary made a respectful application to the municipal authorities for permission to re-open the long-closed sanctuary ; but, being convinced that every effort would be vain without the blessing of God, he and his people set apart the 13th as a day of fasting and prayer. After numerous difficulties had been overcome, the application was successful. Time was required, however, for the renovation of the dilapidated building. This having been effected, the chapel was re-opened on the 3rd of July, which was a day of joy and gladness to hundreds of devout worshippers.

Both the zealous Pastor and his affectionate flock were rejoicing in the hope of long years of prosperity, when a dark cloud again settled upon their prospect. The shepherd was smitten and the sheep were again scattered. In little more than three months after the opening of the Kingston chapel, Mr. Davis died, after an illness of but a few days. The following is an abstract from a letter which the Leaders and Stewards addressed to the Missionary Committee soon afterwards : " Mysterious, but wise and good are the ways of Divine Pro-

vidence. The Kingston Methodist chapel, which had been shut up for seven long years, but which to the great joy of numbers was re-opened in July last, and which has been crowded ever since, is again closed by the death of our excellent Minister, the Rev. Mr. Davis. This melancholy and inexpressibly lamentable event took place on the 13th of October, 1814, from an attack of yellow fever. He died in great peace, declaring with his latest breath that he looked forward to heaven as his eternal home." In a brief biographical sketch which appeared in the "Kingston Chronicle," he was described as "exemplary in all respects in his private character, and in his public acts discreet and faithful. His discourses were truly Scriptural, plain, affectionate, and useful, and his end was peaceful and happy."

George Shadford.

It is worthy of grateful recognition, that this useful Minister gave himself cheerfully to the foreign work under peculiar circumstances. A re-inforcement of Missionaries was urgently required in America shortly after the introduction of Methodism into that country: and Mr. Shadford was one of those who consented to go. He sailed for New York, in company with the Rev. Thomas Rankin, in the spring of 1773, and spent four years in America, rendering good service to the cause in which he was engaged; and he would no doubt gladly have continued to labour in a country where a faithful Gospel ministry was so much required, had not circumstances over which he had no control prevented his doing so. In 1776 the revolutionary war commenced which threw everything into confusion, and seriously interrupted the work of Methodism. Strong feelings of prejudice against Englishmen everywhere prevailed, and ultimately all the Missionaries left the country and returned home, except the devoted Asbury, who continued at his post and weathered out the storm. Among those who returned to Europe was Mr. Shadford, who immediately resumed his work in an English Circuit, and who continued his labours at home so long as health and strength would permit. In 1791 he was obliged, by age and infirmities, to retire from the full duty of the ministry; but as

a Supernumerary he evinced unabated interest in the work of the Lord, and continued to promote it to the utmost of his power, till in the year 1815 he was called to enter upon the rest which remains for the people of God. A little before his death he was asked whether all was clear before him; and he replied with great feeling: "I bless God it is," and added, "Victory, victory, through the blood of the Lamb!" As a token of respect for his brethren he left £100 to the Preachers' Fund to be paid to the Treasurer at the death of his widow.

William Ault.

One of the six Missionaries appointed to accompany Dr. Coke to India was the Rev. William Ault, who is described as "a young man of an excellent spirit, amiable manners, ardent piety, and burning zeal to promote the glory of God." Like many others who have become eminent for piety and usefulness in the Christian Church, he gave his heart to God in early life; and it is recorded of him that "when only seven years of age he had read the Bible through seven times." After his conversion God was pleased to separate him for the Christian ministry, and for several years he preached in his native country. Being deeply convinced that he was called by God to visit heathen lands, he offered himself as a Missionary to India when Dr. Coke was making arrangements to proceed to that country: and the Conference accepted his offer.

Mr. Ault had the misfortune to lose a devoted wife on his passage to India. She had not been long at sea when she sickened and died, and her body was consigned to a watery grave. This afflictive bereavement, together with the sudden death of Dr. Coke, which followed soon after, made a deep impression on the mind of Mr. Ault, who, although he endeavoured to bow with reverent submission, seemed never to recover his wonted vivacity. He nevertheless addressed himself to his important duties with considerable vigour, taking part with his brethren in making arrangements for the prosecution of the work in Ceylon; and it fell to his lot to go to Batticaloa.

At that place there was a church without a Clergyman, and

the building was politely placed at the disposal of the Missionary by the Government authorities till suitable Mission buildings could be erected. There Mr. Ault began his labours by preaching to the British soldiers and others who understood English; and at the same time he diligently studied the languages of the people among whom his lot was cast. By his simple piety and the zealous manner in which he prosecuted the important duties of his office, he soon won the esteem of the people, and a successful career was anticipated for him. But in the midst of his useful labours his health failed; and this faithful servant of God was called to rest from his labours on the 1st of April, 1815. He was the first of a considerable number of Wesleyan Missionaries who have fallen under the trying climate of India.

Jeremiah Boothby

Was appointed as a Missionary to the West Indies in the year 1813. His day was short; but it was not spent in vain, as many souls are believed to have been won to Christ through his labours. For some time after he arrived in the West Indies, he enjoyed good health, and did good service both in St. Bart's and St. Kitt's, where he was highly esteemed. At length, a vacancy having occurred in the island of Dominica, he readily consented to go there, notwithstanding the unhealthy character of the climate. He entered zealously into his new sphere of labour; but his promising career was soon brought to a close by a remarkable dispensation of Divine Providence. The Missionary's death was not in this case caused simply by the climate. Mr. Boothby was preaching on the evening of the 4th of July, 1816, to a large congregation, when a person came into the chapel with the avowed determination to interrupt the meeting. The Minister who was of a highly sensitive temperament got through the service with some difficulty, being much hurt at the man's behaviour; and after the service he requested him to go into the Mission house that he might speak with him on the impropriety of his conduct. The man made a rude reply which drew such a crowd of people that Mr. Boothby had to pass out of the chapel into the open air, instead of going the usual way through

an inner passage into his house. The servant, who was in the house, was so confused and alarmed, that for some minutes she could not open the door; and, as Mr. Boothby was waiting, being insufficiently protected against the cold, he suffered a severe chill, which immediately affected his lungs and brought on pleurisy, which in a few days ended in death. During his short affliction his mind was in a very happy state; and just before he expired he desired Mr. Dakin, who was watching by his bed, to inform his brethren and friends that he thanked God that he had ever set his foot on the island of Dominica. He died at Roseau, on the 14th of July, 1816.

John Lewis.

The information handed down to us respecting this young Missionary who embarked for the West Indies in 1814, is very limited; but it is sufficient to show that the officers of the Society were careful in the selection and appointment of their agents. He is described as "a young man of eminent piety and of very promising talent and usefulness." He was a native of Wales, and was, to all appearance, well fitted for Missionary work within the tropics; and his brethren and friends anticipated for him a long and successful career. But he had laboured only two years in the island of Antigua when he was suddenly smitten down. He was not supposed to be in any immediate danger until the day on which he died. But though his call was sudden, and he was in the bloom of life, he was not unprepared. His soul was happy in God through his short but painful affliction. He departed this life on the 17th of July, 1816.

John Bugar

Was a native of London. Having given his heart to God in early life, he was constrained by the love of Christ to offer himself as a Missionary to the heathen. He was appointed to Jamaica, where his labours were greatly blessed. This was

especially the case at Morant Bay, where he received two hundred members into the Society in the short space of nine months. But in the midst of his useful labours the Lord saw fit to call him to his heavenly reward. He died suddenly on the 1st of August, 1816, in the twenty-eighth year of his age. His remains were followed to the grave by some thousands of mourners, who deeply lamented his loss. The esteem in which he was held was not confined to the poor Negro slaves to whom his ministry had been made such a blessing, but was shared by all classes; and the gentlemen of the place were so much pleased with his conduct that they generously voted at their vestry meeting the sum of £100 to his bereaved widow.

William Lill

Was another young Missionary to whom the climate of the West Indies proved fatal in the early part of the present century. He appears to have been a young man of feeble health but of a meek and genial spirit, and to have been entirely devoted to the work in which he was engaged. The Station at which he chiefly laboured and at which he finished his course, was Grenada, where he was much respected. He continued at his post of duty and went in and out among the people, notwithstanding much weakness, until the Sabbath before his death. During his affliction he was truly happy in God; and in conversation with the Honourable R. Otley, who kindly visited him, he expressed that happiness in a strong and fervent manner. He died on the 28th of December, 1816, sincerely regretted by all who knew him.

John Mann.

Among the host of settlers who removed from the United States to the British provinces of North America at the close of the revolutionary war there were a few pious Methodists, one of whom, Mr. John Mann, a zealous Local Preacher, was soon afterwards called to the full work of the ministry. He came

from his native place, New York, to Shelburne in 1784, and ultimately removed to Liverpool, Nova Scotia, where he laboured as a Missionary. Writing to him in 1788, Mr. Wesley says: "I am greatly concerned for the prosperity of the work of God in Nova Scotia. Whatever opposers you meet with, Calvinists, Papists, Antinomians, or any other, have a particular care that they do not take up too much either of your thoughts or time. You have better work: keep to your one point, Christ dying for us, and living in us; so will you fulfil my joy." Guided by such wise counsel, Mr. Mann continued to labour with zeal and diligence in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for several years, until he was obliged by age and infirmity to retire from the full work. But even then he was ever ready to assist his brethren to the utmost of his power, being deeply interested in every thing which affected the interests of the kingdom of Christ. He suffered much from personal and domestic affliction during the latter part of his life, but the Lord sustained him. After having been a faithful ambassador of Christ for more than forty years, he entered into rest on the 27th of February, 1817. He was the first Wesleyan Methodist Missionary that died in Nova Scotia.

William Beacock.

The Rev. William Beacock embarked at Gravesend in company with Messrs. Shrewsbury and Hillier on board the ship "Camden," on the 25th of October, 1815, and arrived in safety at Antigua on the 4th of December, after a pleasant passage. He was delighted with his cordial reception; and the spirit in which he entered on his work was indicated in the first letter after his arrival: "The next morning we rose at five o'clock, and went to chapel, as is usual. I gave an exhortation. It was dark when I began, and most of the people being black, I could not see them; but I could hear them weep and praise God; and I wept too, my soul being filled with love to them. I have preached at many places since, and the people appear comforted; but whether they are or not, I am, for my cup generally runneth over. When preaching at Parham, where we have one thousand

members, I had not proceeded far in my sermon before the people began to cry out, some in distress and others praising God. My voice at times could not be heard, though in speaking I exerted myself to the utmost. Truly this was a day of the Son of Man!" Then he gives an account of the Lovefeast which followed, in which the converted Negroes "gave a Scriptural account of the work of grace in their hearts," while the whole assembly was frequently overpowered with deep emotion.

Mr. Beacock had only laboured about four months in Antigua when, on the 17th of March, 1816, he embarked for St. Vincent's, to which island he had been appointed by the District Meeting. On the evening of his arrival and on the Sunday following he preached to crowded congregations, and appeared as much delighted with the state and prospects of the Mission as he had been in Antigua. Writing home soon afterwards he says: "Since I came to the West Indies my health has never been better. I am more able to labour now than I have ever been before: glory be to God! I have got some little zeal and love for souls. O that it were increased a thousand fold!" As he laboured in such a spirit, it is not surprising that his efforts were greatly blessed in the conversion of sinners, and in the building up of believers.

The next Station of Mr. Beacock was Dominica, where several Missionaries had previously died. He went in the name and strength of the Lord; but it was the will of God that he also should leave this world. On Saturday, the 16th of October, he set out in an open boat for Prince Rupert's, and during most of the day was exposed to the piercing rays of a tropical sun. The weather then suddenly changed, and rain poured down, drenching him in a fearful manner. The result was a severe cold with high fever, which, on his return to Roseau, increased, with almost constant delirium. When conscious he expressed his firm reliance on the atonement of Christ; and, after lingering in great pain for a few days, he was released from his sufferings, and entered into the joy of his Lord on the 29th of August, 1817. A brother Missionary, who knew him well, bears the following noble testimony to his character: "I first became acquainted with him in the island of St. Vincent, and after he left that place carried on a constant correspondence with him nearly until the time of his death. From first to last I found

him to be a man of eminent piety. His charity, zeal, diligence, humility, resignation and love, I scarcely ever saw equalled. Of him I can say, 'The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found to proceed from his lips.'

Joseph Ward.

The Bahamas are generally classed among the most healthy islands of the West Indies, and yet through frequent exposure in open boats, and through the generally arduous character of the labour required, several Missionaries have fallen in that interesting part of the field. The first of these was the Rev. Joseph Ward, who was sent out to strengthen the Mission in 1814. His first Station was Nassau, New Providence, where he began his labours with an earnestness which gave good promise of success. His health continued good for some time, but in the following year it seriously failed, and a sea voyage was recommended to him. Accordingly, on the 17th of June, 1815, he went on board a small sloop on a Missionary voyage to Abaco and Green Turtle Key. The weather was boisterous, with much thunder and lightning; but the Missionary was much interested in the conversation of the captain, who proved to be a truly pious man, although he had heard only five Gospel sermons in three years. Immediately on his landing, Mr. Ward was surrounded by a vast concourse of men, women, and children, who welcomed his arrival with gratitude and joy; and without delay he preached from, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, etc." Concerning this service he says: "The Lord was with us, of a truth; and notwithstanding the fatigue of the passage, and the sick state I was in, I was so much in my element that I forgot the body altogether. However the end may turn out, we certainly had a good beginning." Here Mr. Ward remained about a month, during which a good work was carried on; and, having gathered into classes all who had a sincere desire to "flee from the wrath to come," he returned to New Providence with his health somewhat improved.

Mr. Ward's next Station was Harbour Island, to which he proceeded in the month of January, 1816. Concerning that

Station he says: "My Circuit is very extensive, and keeps me fully employed; but, thanks be to God, my work is my delight. Nothing earthly, at present, has any charms for me, only as they refer to my Redeemer. The services of the last three months have been attended by an unction from the Holy One. Some of the chiefs in Satan's army have bowed to God, and are now fighting under the banner of the King of kings. The desolating and soul-murdering practice of rum-drinking is hiding its head; and swearing, Sabbath-breaking, and fighting are nearly removed out of the place. And that which is yet more inviting, is that struggling after God which shows itself in our prayer, Class, and public meetings: I dare venture to affirm that thirty souls at least have found peace with God this last quarter. Both blacks and whites are found among the new converts. And at our Class-meetings we have persons of all ages and conditions."

In this way Mr. Ward had laboured for about three years in the Bahamas when he was suddenly called away. Concerning his last illness and death Mr. Rutledge, one of his fellow-labourers, wrote to the Rev. Joseph Benson: "The painful task falls to me to inform you of the melancholy event of brother Joseph Ward's death, after an illness of some days. From the third day till the ninth his doctors thought him getting better, as did also his friends and his nurses; but after that a change took place for the worse, which soon hurried the spirit of our dear brother into eternity. He died, however, in a most happy state of mind, triumphing over death and the grave; praying, praising, and preaching Jesus to the very last." Mr. Ward died at New Providence on the 21st of September, 1817, and his funeral was attended by the largest concourse of people ever seen assembled on a similar occasion in the Bahamas, many of whom shed floods of tears at the loss of their beloved Pastor.

Michael Head.

Within two months of the death of the first Missionary who fell in the Bahamas, the Methodist Church in those islands was called to mourn the loss of another excellent young man, namely,

Michael Head, who had been only about two years in the country when he also was cut down by fever. The labours of Mr. Head were highly appreciated by the people in New Providence, where he first landed in 1815 ; but the claims of the work in the distant islands of the group rendered it necessary for him to proceed to Abaco early in the following year. In his first letter after his arrival, dated the 11th of March, he says : " I left New Providence on the morning of the 7th of February, and arrived here on the 8th, at night. The distance is about eighty-five miles. Here I found a poor and afflicted people, and scarcely any one to give me a night's lodging. I expected that I should be under the necessity of returning on board the vessel I came in, to sleep ; but after some time the use of a house was offered to me till the owner returned from sea. Of this I gladly accepted, and was conducted to my new apartment by the light of a burning stick, candles being little known in this island. The place was soon filled with people, both whites and blacks, who were actively employed in kindling a fire in the centre of the room to give me a light ; and one of the blacks fetched me a little of the best water he could get. I conversed and prayed a little with them, and desired them, if spared, to call and see me in the morning ; so they left me and I spread my little mattress on the floor and laid me down to sleep. I thought, Surely I do now realize some of the hardships which, when at home, I suspected to be the lot of our dear brethren the Missionaries, who are scattering the seeds of eternal life in different parts of the world." Then he proceeds to tell how he visited the people from house to house and preached the next evening to a large congregation, and on the following Sabbath three times to listening multitudes, on whose hearts the Lord wrought powerfully by His Holy Spirit ; and how the good work ultimately prospered, notwithstanding the unpromising commencement.

In November, 1816, he wrote of his labours in Long Island : " I was landed on the south end of the island, about twenty miles from the settlement. I left my luggage all night on the shore, and travelled through the woods and over the rocks to a black man's house, or hut, to get lodgings that night ; but when I arrived there I was conducted on farther, about four miles, to a Mr. Munroe's, who received me very politely. I find the work very hard, as the distances to travel are great, and preaching out

of doors is rather dangerous in this climate. I have to ride forty miles on the Sabbath and preach three times, and must return to get victuals, except what I carry in my pocket; but, blessed be God, I have felt no sickness; and it is the delight of my soul to do the work of the Lord. My health is good, and I desire to devote it to His service. The people are exceedingly poor." It is not to be wondered at that labours and privations like these should bring down the strength of the Missionary and prepare the system for those attacks of fever which are so common within the tropics. Mr. Head toiled on a few months longer and then finished his course with joy. His last sermon was preached from the text, "I know that my Redeemer liveth." Soon after this he was seized with a violent fever, which ended in death, on the 18th of November, 1817. During his illness Mr. Head was sometimes in heaviness through severe temptation; but, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, he came off more than a conqueror. His last words were, "Come; O, come, and take me!"

John D. Allen.

Mr. Allen was appointed as a Missionary to the island of Nevis in the West Indies soon after he entered the ministry in 1813. He laboured diligently for some time before his health began to decline; but at length his brethren and his medical attendants recommended his return to England as the only means of preserving his life. In the month of June, 1817, he reached home; but he gradually sank, until his spirit returned to God who gave it. He died in the month of November, calmly trusting in Jesus Christ. He was a young man of an amiable disposition, and of genuine piety, fully prepared for the paradise of God.

William Turton.

Mr. Turton, whose character and history possess some features of peculiar interest, was a man of colour, and a native of Barbadoes. He was born in the year 1761; and, being the son of a respectable planter, he was favoured with as good an

education as could be obtained in the West Indies at that time. His father dying when he was a little boy, he was left to the care of his mother; and, notwithstanding her vigilance, he gave himself up to the pleasures of the world at an early age. It was after Dr. Coke arrived in the island, with the Rev. B. Pearce, that young Turton was brought under those influences which led to an entire change in his course of life. He first attended the services held by the Missionary for the purpose of persecuting and annoying both the Preacher and the people; but the word spoken was applied to his heart by the Holy Spirit with convincing power, and he was brought as a humble penitent to the foot of the cross. Having found peace with God, he consecrated himself to the service of his Lord and Master, and joined himself to the despised people who had brought him to a saving knowledge of the truth; and, having once joined the Wesleyan-Methodist Society, he ever afterwards continued a faithful and consistent member. His simple piety, mental endowments, and zeal for the cause of God, soon attracted the notice of the Missionaries; and, under the direction of Messrs. Baxter and Warrener, he was ere long employed to assist in the work of the Mission. His first public labours were in the island of Antigua, where he was provisionally engaged in preaching and other ministerial duties, until he should be accepted and appointed to a Circuit by the British Conference. In the interim he also visited America, and preached with acceptance on Long Island and other places. On his return and designation to the full work of the ministry, he was appointed to go on an experimental Mission to the island of Tobago, which failed, however, in consequence of war. He also officiated for some time in St. Bart's, where he was instrumental in building a Wesleyan chapel, and in founding a prosperous Station.

But it was in the Bahamas that Mr. Turton laboured longest and most successfully; and with that interesting group of islands, in which he was a pioneer evangelist and founder of Missions, his name will ever be honourably associated. In New Providence, Rock Sound, Eleuthera, Abaco, Harbour Island, and other places, he was honoured in winning many souls for Christ. When he had thus laboured for about twenty years, during several of which he had occupied the honourable position of Chairman of the District, his health totally failed, and he was

obliged to retire as a Supernumerary. He still did his best to help in the good work until the Master called him. He died in great happiness at New Providence on the 10th of May, 1818, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and the twenty-second of his ministry.

John Smith, 2nd.

Mr. Smith entered upon the work of the Christian ministry in 1808, and after labouring for several years in Circuits at home, became a Missionary to the West Indies. But soon after his appointment to the island of St. Eustatius it pleased God to call him to His eternal rest. He was much in prayer, and lived in the spirit of his Divine Master. Though his gifts were not brilliant, he was generally acceptable; and the Lord gave him many seals to his ministry. He died on the 14th of May, 1818.

John Colmer.

Mr. Colmer was appointed to the West Indies in 1816, to supply one of the vacancies made by the inroads of death. His career was short; and his brethren gave the following beautiful character of him to the Missionary Committee: "His piety was genuine. He felt and described the Gospel as the power of God unto salvation. He lived in communion with God, and his time and his talents were devoted to the work of the ministry. He often said with great fervour, 'My whole desire is to be a man of God, a Bible Christian.' As a Preacher he studied to show himself 'approved of God,' and promised to be an able and useful Minister of the New Testament. His death was sudden and unexpected, but it found him ready. His loins were girded and his light burning, and he was found waiting for the coming of his Lord. In his affliction he manifested much patience and resignation. On being asked the state of his mind, he replied, 'All is well.' He died in the island of Tortola, on the 15th of September, 1818, in the twenty-third year of his age, of a bilious fever, after a sickness of only three days. On the following day his corpse was interred, amid the sighs and tears of a large and deeply affected congregation."

David Jones.

The next young Missionary who nobly fell at his post of duty in the West Indies was the Rev. David Jones, a zealous Welshman who was accepted for foreign service by the Conference of 1817. The Missionary Committee entertained a high opinion of his general fitness for the work, and all his conduct during his short career proved the confidence of his friends to have been well placed. His piety was deep, his spirit amiable, and his gifts promising. He was stationed in Antigua during the short period of his labours, and he was much beloved by the people. He died after a few days' illness on the 30th of December, 1818. In reporting the melancholy event of his death his brethren stated emphatically that "he departed in triumph, in the faith and hope of the Lord Jesus."

John Stephenson.

As one of the early Missionaries who suffered in the cause of Christ, the Rev John Stephenson is worthy of honourable mention. He was a native of Ireland, and was converted in early life. He soon began to pray in public, and also to give a word of exhortation. He laboured several years as a Local Preacher, and was appointed, in 1788, to a Circuit in his native land, and was much respected by the people among whom he exercised his ministry. In 1798 he was sent to the islands of Bermuda, where the Conference and the Committee had resolved to commence a Methodist Mission, in the hope of dealing with the spiritual destitution and degradation of the inhabitants, which had been affectingly represented in a letter to Dr. Coke from a naval officer. Mr. Stephenson no sooner landed on the shores of the Bermudas than he proved by painful experience the truth of the accounts sent to England of the condition of the population. From the very first he was bitterly persecuted by the white people, who were altogether opposed to all efforts to benefit the slaves and free people of colour. The most determined efforts were made to silence him; and those efforts, alas! succeeded too

well ; for he had not exercised his ministry long when he was apprehended, tried, condemned, and unjustly sentenced to six months' imprisonment, with a fine of £50, and all expenses. At the close of his imprisonment he was obliged to leave the colony, and the Mission was for a time relinquished. He returned to Ireland, and was appointed to a Circuit ; but his constitution had received such a shock in Bermuda, that at the end of the year he had to retire from the regular work of the ministry. He continued to preach, however, as health and strength permitted ; and he finished his course with joy in the year 1819. He was a man of sincere piety and warm friendship, and was zealous for the glory of God.

Jonathan Rayner.

Previously to his becoming a Missionary Mr. Rayner was employed as a schoolmaster in Sierra Leone, and did good service in that position. On his return to England, he was admitted into the ranks of the Wesleyan Methodist ministry. In 1817 he was appointed to the West Indies, being charged with the task of commencing a Mission in the island of Tobago ; but he had not been long there when he lost his devoted wife. Referring to this distressing bereavement, he says : " The feelings under which I labour while I write these lines are indescribable ; nor will you wonder that this should be the case, when you learn what has befallen me. The awful stroke of death has deprived me of my most affectionate and amiable wife, who was a comfort to me in this land of strangers. On the morning of the 18th ult. she gave birth to a lovely infant ; and in the afternoon of the same day breathed her last."

As he was thus bereaved, and left with a helpless infant, it was deemed desirable that he should have a change of Station ; and he embarked for the Antigua District, and proceeded to St. Martin's as the pioneer Missionary to that island. Being well suited for that particular kind of work, he made a good beginning ; but his useful labours were soon interrupted by various afflictions, which proved fatal on the 13th of July, 1819, when he died happy in the Lord Jesus, testifying to those around him his unwavering confidence in the God of his salvation.

Obadiah Adams.

Mr. Adams was converted to God in early life under the Methodist ministry at Groombridge, in Sussex, where he afterwards became a very acceptable and useful Local Preacher. Having been accepted by the Conference of 1818, as a candidate for Mission work, he was appointed to Spanish Town in Jamaica, where he zealously discharged his duties for some time, preaching with profit to crowded congregations. In the course of a few months, however, hope was blighted; for on the 12th of August, 1819, he became ill; and on the 18th he calmly fell asleep in Jesus, in the twenty-ninth year of his age. He had so won the affections of the people of Spanish Town, that his widow was not allowed to return to England, after his death, without the most substantial tokens of sympathy and good will, and the kindness of the Rev. William F. Hamilton, the Rector, is worthy of special mention.

John Gillison.

In early life Mr. Gillison was deeply pious, and laboured to do good as a Local Preacher. Having entered the ministry and travelled one year in a home Circuit, he volunteered to go as a Missionary to Western Africa, and was sent out with the Rev. John Baker to Sierra Leone. They arrived at Free Town on the 14th of February, 1819, and at once began their labours. For some time they bore up well under the trials peculiar to the country; but when they had been there about six months and had seen much success, they were both attacked with fever. Mr. Baker happily recovered, but Mr. Gillison died on the 10th of August, in the twenty-second year of his age.

Mr. Gillison is said to have been a young man of more than usual promise, and his early removal was a severe loss both to his friends and to the Missionary Society. Mr. Baker gave the following account of his last illness and death: "On the evening of July 30th my late dear colleague went to bed very poorly, and before morning was seized with fever. After some days I

got myself assisted, weak as I was, into his room, as I much wished to inquire into the state of his mind. When I came, he requested to be helped up in bed, and we seemed like two dear friends meeting, who had long been separated. I immediately asked, 'Is Jesus precious to you?' He directly answered, 'Yes! glory be to God for it, He is!' Next morning I again called and found him happy in God, and prepared for His will; and in all the intervals of delirium which afterwards occurred he continued to express himself in the same manner till in the course of a few days he exchanged mortality for life, and passed away to his reward in heaven."

Joseph Hartley.

Mr. Hartley was a young Missionary of more than ordinary ability and promise; but he also was called to rest from his labour soon after he had entered the field. Having been recommended by the Nottingham District Meeting, he was accepted by the Conference and appointed to Jamaica in 1818, though only in his twentieth year. His devotion to his work and the growth of his attainments exceeded the hopes of the Committee, and his course was anticipated with very sanguine hopes. In Jamaica he was kindly received into the family of his Superintendent, where he had attentions and comforts unknown to many young Missionaries. But his health gave way under the influence of the climate, and in a little more than twelve months after his arrival in Jamaica he finished his course, on the 29th of January, 1820. He is described as "a young man of a most amiable disposition, genuine piety, and entire devotedness to the service of God."

William Wilson.

Mr. Wilson was appointed to the islands of Bermuda in 1812, and he laboured there successfully for six years. He then returned to Ireland, his native country, his health considerably *impaired*. He at length so far recovered that he was once more

appointed to a Circuit. On his way from Conference, however, he caught a fever, which in a few days ended his course. He died at Portadown, on the 21st of July, 1820. He is described as "possessed of a sound understanding, deep piety, and highly acceptable talents," and God was pleased to crown his labours with success and to bless him with a triumphant end.

John Hudson.

Mr. Hudson, like most of those who have been eminently useful in the Lord's vineyard, was converted to God in his youth. After preaching the Gospel with acceptance for some time in his native land, he was constrained by the love of Christ to offer himself as a Missionary to the West Indies. He arrived in Jamaica in 1817, and laboured there about two years. Then his health failed. Reluctant to quit the Mission field altogether, he, by the advice of his medical attendant, embarked for British North America in the hope of recruiting his health and returning to his work. But soon after he landed at St. John's, New Brunswick, he became worse, and, having lingered for a short time, died in peace on the 27th of September, 1820.

William Larcom.

The case of this young Missionary was similar. It is said by those who knew him well, that "his conversion to God was clear," and that "his knowledge and love of our doctrines were highly satisfactory." He had special qualifications for work among the heathen, and his loss was therefore severely felt. Mr. Larcom was appointed to the island of Tobago, with the Rev. Mr. Smedley, in 1819; but he was spared to labour only a few months. He died in peace at Scarborough on the 22nd of November, 1820, in the twenty-second year of his age. Mr. Smedley bears the following testimony of his character and worth: "Brother Larcom was an exceedingly promising Missionary, and the more he was known in the Colony, the more he was esteemed and

loved. Both in public and in private I have ever found him an example of faithfulness and diligence, truly worthy of my imitation. And I have no doubt he has left me for a better world."

James Mann.

Mr. James Mann was the brother of the Rev. John Mann. [See p. 40.] He was born in New York, and was brought to a knowledge of his sinful state through the efforts of Philip Embury and his associates, who laid the foundation of Methodism on the American Continent. It was not, however, until he went to Shelburne in Nova Scotia, with his brother and other Royalists, in 1784, that he experienced a sense of the favour of God. Soon after his conversion, he began to call sinners to repentance; and such were the results of his labours and the evidences of his call to the work, that in 1787 he was admitted to the ranks of the regular ministry, in which he continued, with credit to himself and benefit to the Church, as long as he lived. For more than thirty years he travelled and preached in the wilds of Nova Scotia, among a scattered and spiritually destitute population, frequently passing through swamps, and snows, and dreary woods to distant appointments, being regardless of the inclemency of the weather and of the numerous privations which he was called to endure. And he did not spend his strength for nought. He had the honour of winning many souls for Christ, and of building up the Church on the true foundation, and his influence for good continues to the present day. He had the confidence of John Wesley, with whom he corresponded. His peaceful end was in harmony with his life. He had long felt the desire which the poet of Methodism thus expresses:

"O that without a lingering groan
I may the welcome word receive;
My body with my charge lay down,
And cease at once to work and live!"

And his wish was granted. He was at Cape Negro, about twenty miles from Shelburne, on Christmas Day, 1820, where he preached, and solemnized a marriage. About half an hour after the service

he complained of a pain in his arm and shoulder, which soon passed into his stomach ; and about two hours afterwards he breathed his last and his sanctified spirit passed away to be for ever with the Lord. He died in a good old age. His remains were removed for interment to Shelburne, where his character and labours are still held in grateful remembrance.



MISSION HOUSE, ST. ANN'S, JAMAICA.



FOURTH DECADE.

1821—1830.

Adam Clarke Avar.

ONE of the early fruits of the Wesleyan Mission in Prince Edward's Island, British North America, was Adam Clarke Avar. He was converted to God in the year 1815, and soon afterwards became a Preacher of the Gospel. In 1817 he was accepted as a Missionary ; and it is recorded that "his piety, good temper, and zeal rendered him in every place acceptable and profitable to the people among whom he laboured." The Missionary Committee, judging him well qualified for the work, had appointed him to undertake a new Mission on the Labrador coast, among some tribes of Indians that had not previously been favoured with Christian instruction ; but before he could proceed on this important enterprise, he was called to rest from his labours. He died in peace at Fredericton, New Brunswick, on the 15th of March, 1821, much regretted by his brethren and by the people.

John Maddock.

Soon after his call to the Christian ministry, the Rev. John Maddock offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen. He was sent to the West Indies in 1817, and for a few years laboured in different islands. His ministerial abilities were not great ; but he was faithful and diligent ; and his exertions were much *blessed in the conversion and edification of souls*, at each of the

Stations to which he was appointed. His temper was mild and affectionate, and his agreeable, blameless, and devout conduct recommended the Gospel to all around him. In 1820 he was appointed to commence a new Mission in the island of Montserrat, in which he was blessed with success. He first hired a room for preaching and other services; but it proved far too small to accommodate the crowds of people who were anxious to attend his ministry; and in spite of difficulties and opposition, he erected a chapel which was soon filled with attentive hearers. He thus laid the foundation of a Church, which continues to the present day. In the midst of his zealous labours he died after a few days' illness, on the 29th of May, 1821, "sincerely regretted," says a gentleman of the island, who furnished the account of his death, "by all in the colony without exception."

John Brownell.

An interesting memoir of the Rev. John Brownell, by the Rev. Thomas Jackson, was published in the "Wesleyan Magazine" for 1823. He was born at Altrincham, in Cheshire, on the 22nd of January, 1771. When he was about eight or nine years of age he was severely afflicted with the small-pox. When after a considerable time he recovered his health, he was totally blind. In that state he had continued for three years when his father had a dream to the effect that if he would take his son to a certain well, and bathe his eyes with the water, his sight would be restored. He did so, and, after persevering for some time in the use of the water, the boy could see as well as ever. This had a salutary effect on his youthful mind, and a few years afterwards he was brought under those gracious influences which resulted in his conversion to God, and his union with the Wesleyan Society, of which he became an exemplary member and Minister. In the year 1794 he became a Local Preacher, and soon afterwards received what he believed to be a providential call to go out as a Missionary to the West Indies. He embarked for Antigua on the 17th of November; and, after encountering a severe storm in the *English Channel*, being detained some time

at Plymouth, and calling at Barbadoes and Martinique on the way, he reached his destination on the 7th of March, 1795.

Mr. Brownell now entered upon a course of Missionary labour among the Negro slaves and others in the West Indies, which continued without interruption for eleven years, with the most gratifying results. He laboured chiefly in Antigua, Nevis, St. Kitt's, and Tortola; and, notwithstanding many difficulties arising from the extreme ignorance of the people, the occasional opposition of the planters, and a considerable share of personal and domestic affliction, he was favoured to see the good work prosper. The kind of work in which he was engaged and the spirit in which he addressed himself to it, will appear from the following extract from a letter which he wrote to the Committee from Tortola, under date of July 16th, 1804: "I find religion has made a great alteration for the better among the blacks in this island. A larger proportion of them enjoy peace with God than in most islands to windward. But there are fewer coloured or white people attend even the preaching than in any island I have seen. The prospect of good among *them* is very small. There are, I suppose, fifteen or sixteen small islands around this, and in the whole there is not a place of worship besides our chapels; no, nor a beneficed Clergyman. Never did the Methodists undertake a Mission more wanted. Yet as God has blessed His word to the conversion of so many blacks, we will not despair of His calling the coloured and whites from darkness to light, and of His turning them from Satan to God. Travelling here is performed chiefly by water, and is both difficult and dangerous. To be tossed about in a small open boat, while almost every wave is ready to overwhelm it, appears rather strange to those who have not been accustomed to it. But the love of souls surmounts every difficulty."

The health and constitution of Mr. Brownell having seriously suffered from the heat of the climate, he was obliged, in 1806, to return to England, where he laboured as a faithful and devoted Minister of Christ till within a short time of his dissolution, which took place at Newark, September 24th, 1821. It is recorded of him that "his last sickness and death strikingly illustrated the words of the Psalmist: 'Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright; for the end of that man is peace.'"

Joseph Chapman.

It is reported of him that he was converted to God at an early age, and that he soon afterwards felt an ardent desire to preach the Gospel. Having been admitted on trial for the ministry, he travelled one year in England ; and, at the Conference of 1817, he was appointed as a Missionary to the West Indies. He was a young man of promising ability, and preached with acceptance on different Stations for four years. His last appointment was to the island of Tortola, where he was seized with fever. He died happy in God on the 21st of July, 1821. His last words were, "I am perfectly happy, and feel resigned to the will of my great Creator."

John Dace

Was another young Missionary cut down in the prime of life after an honourable and useful period of service at home and abroad. He was born at Wednesbury, in the year 1784. Early in life he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth ; and, having proved the Gospel to be the power of God unto salvation, he was called to publish the same grace to others. He was appointed, in 1806, to the West Indies. He did his work in the true spirit ; and therefore, although his gifts were not great, he was both acceptable and useful as long as he was permitted to labour. He appeared to live under a constant sense of the presence of God ; and it is believed that, for several years, he enjoyed His perfect love. On every Station that he occupied he was an instrument of good especially to believers in building them up in their most holy faith and in leading them on to entire sanctification. After labouring for ten years in the different islands he returned to England in 1816 ; but preferring to labour among the heathen he went out a second time in 1817. His last appointment was to St. Bartholomew's. The day after preaching from the striking text, "He that endureth to the end, the same shall be saved," he was attacked with putrid fever which proved fatal in the course of four days. He died triumphantly

happy in the love of God, on the 3rd of September, 1821, in the thirty-seventh year of his age, and the fifteenth of his ministry. His last words were, "The Church of the first-born above." His funeral was attended by a large concourse of people, including the Governor and Council and two Clergymen.

George Johnstone

Preached the unsearchable riches of Christ to the poor oppressed Negroes in the West Indies, for nearly eighteen years, with great zeal and diligence. The distinguished traits in his character were promptitude in the discharge of every duty, inviolable integrity in all his transactions, moral courage which enabled him to meet danger and endure privation without fear, and a constant flow of benevolent feeling which shed perpetual sunshine on all around him. For several years Mr. Johnstone was Chairman of the Jamaica District; and in that capacity he became much endeared to his brethren. Nor were his zealous labours in vain in the Lord. It is believed that many from the respective Stations which he occupied will be his joy and the crown of his rejoicing in the day of Christ. At length his wiry constitution gave way under the trying influence of the climate; and, after an illness of twenty-two days, he finished his course in peace at Morant Bay, Jamaica, on Friday, the 5th of October, 1821, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and the twenty-fifth of his ministry. His brethren say of him, "Few men have died in our West India Mission so greatly lamented as this excellent and laborious servant of God, whose praise in the Gospel is in all the Churches in that part of the globe."

James Evan Underhill

Was a native of Staffordshire, and was appointed as a Missionary to Jamaica by the Conference of 1817. He was a young man of more than ordinary ability; and his diligence in study and his accurate knowledge of Christian doctrine qualified him *to give sound instruction*, and prudently to manage the affairs

of the Society committed to his charge. His course of ministerial labour among the poor Negroes was only short ; but it was highly useful as long as it continued. Having caught a severe cold in the discharge of his pastoral duties, he was for a long time in feeble health. Sanguine hopes of his ultimate recovery were, however, beginning to be entertained when he was attacked with the fever common to the country, and in the course of a few days he was removed from his labours on earth to the rest which remains for the people of God in heaven. He fell asleep in Jesus at Morant Bay, Jamaica, on the 24th of September, 1821, in the twenty-seventh year of his age, and the fourth of his ministry. It is said of him by his brethren, in addition to their testimony to his many ministerial excellencies, that "he was much beloved by the Societies in the places in which he was stationed."

William Ames

Was a native of Wellington in Shropshire. Having been brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in early life, and called to the work of the Christian ministry, he was appointed by the Conference of 1818 as a Missionary to the West Indies. The first Station he occupied was the island of St. Vincent, where he laboured for about two years. In the early part of 1821 he removed to Demerara where he met with a cordial reception ; and it was hoped that he might long be made a blessing to that colony. He had laboured there for only a few months, however, when he died of malignant fever, in George Town. This sad event occurred on the 1st of November, 1821. In making a record of his character and labours his brethren said of him : "He was firmly attached to our doctrines and discipline, and faithfully discharged every duty of his calling. In the awful moment when his heart and flesh failed, he found God to be the 'strength of his heart,' and died with the glorious assurance that He would be his 'portion for ever.'"

"There we shall see His face,
And never, never sin ;
There, from the rivers of His grace,
Drink endless pleasures in."

George Bellamy

Had laboured for seven years in England as a Wesleyan Minister, when he was constrained by the love of Christ to offer himself as a Missionary to the West Indies. He was accordingly appointed to that part of the world at the Conference of 1817. He laboured on different Stations for nearly four years; and during that time he was exercised with much personal and domestic affliction which, together with the enervating influence of the climate, impaired his constitution. At length, when stationed in Demerara, he was seized with malignant fever at the same time that his colleague, Mr. Ames, was laid prostrate by a similar attack; and the day after Mr. Ames finished his course, Mr. Bellamy passed away to meet him in the skies. He died in George Town on the 2nd of November, 1821, sincerely regretted by the people of his charge, who were now left as sheep having no shepherd. The writer many years afterwards looked upon the graves of these honoured Missionaries, thus simultaneously cut down in the midst of their labours, with peculiar feelings, and heard from the people the most honourable testimonies to their self-sacrificing zeal and devotedness to the service of God.

William Bell

Was born in the neighbourhood of Louth in Lincolnshire, where he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in early life. Before he entered upon the full work of the ministry he acted as a Local Preacher for several years, and was made a blessing to many of his fellow-countrymen. He was exemplary for steady and consistent piety, under circumstances more than ordinarily trying, and was a credit to his Christian profession. His zeal and steadfastness, combined with his apparently sound bodily constitution, seemed to mark him out as one well adapted for foreign service. He was accordingly appointed as a Missionary to St. Mary's, on the River Gambia, in Western Africa; but He whose "*thoughts are not as our thoughts*" did not permit him to labour there

long. Shortly after his arrival, he was assailed by a violent fever peculiar to the country, which proved fatal in the course of a few days. He died at Bathurst, on the 15th of March, 1822, in the twenty-eighth year of his age, and the second of his ministry. When free from the delirium caused by his disorder, he expressed himself to his colleague in a very satisfactory manner respecting his prospects. His remains were interred in the common burial ground on the margin of the river, beyond the colonial hospital; but nine years afterwards we sought in vain for his grave, there being no stone to mark the spot where he was laid, and the ground being covered with jungle. Nevertheless the Almighty has the dust of His servant in His careful keeping. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

George Lane

Was a native of Bath. He was a young man of considerable promise as a Christian Minister. At the Conference of 1820, he was appointed to Sierra Leone in Western Africa. He landed at Free Town in the month of January, 1821; and there he met with a cordial welcome from the Missionaries and their people. Shortly afterwards he was called to St. Mary's on the River Gambia to fill a vacancy. From his journal, of which an extract was published in the "Missionary Notices," he appears to have entered upon his work there in the true Missionary spirit; but before the end of the year his labours were seriously interrupted by illness. Writing on the 16th of October he says: "I am yet very ill with fever, as I have been since the 7th of September; nor have I since that period been able to perform any of my usual duties. And my doctor informs me, that I am not likely to recover if I remain at St. Mary's, and has accordingly advised me to leave by the first opportunity."

As Mr. Lane had no wish to relinquish his Missionary labours, he embraced an opportunity which presented itself of taking a short sea voyage by a vessel bound for the Isles de Los and Sierra Leone, hoping to return to the Gambia with his health recruited. When he reached Sierra Leone, it was arranged, however, that he should remain there, and on the 16th of

December he writes : "To-day I have called upon some of our members and friends. I am disposed to think that the providence of God has brought me back to Sierra Leone, as also that by its direction I went to the Gambia ; therefore I am thankful for both ; but I am now more in my most delightful employment, namely, that of preaching. I am happy to find the Society in a prosperous state. The word of the Lord is blessed to those who hear ; a serious deportment and fixed attention are conspicuous in the congregation ; and above all, souls are brought to a saving knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ." Shortly after he had thus hopefully resumed his labours, he was again attacked with fever ; and after lingering for twenty-one days, he died in peace at Sierra Leone, on the 16th of April, 1823, in the twenty-eighth year of his age, and the second of his ministry. Thus early was this promising servant of Christ called to rest from his labours, after a residence of only fifteen months on the coast. His brethren bore this honourable testimony to his character : "He was kind, faithful, and laborious ; and, had his life been spared, it is probable that the Sierra Leone Mission would have derived important benefit from his services."

John Huddleston

Had been for several years converted to God, and had for some time acted as a Local Preacher, when he offered himself for the foreign Mission work and was cordially accepted. He was appointed to Sierra Leone by the Conference of 1820. Accompanied by his devoted wife he arrived at Free Town on the 8th of November. Notwithstanding the unhealthy character of the climate, Mr. and Mrs. Huddleston laboured for upwards of two years in Sierra Leone with tolerable health and comfort, and were favoured to see a goodly number of hopeful converts gathered into the fold of Christ. During that period not only was the work of the Mission vigorously maintained in Free Town, the capital of the colony ; but new Stations were formed in several of the villages in the mountains, and the Gospel was preached to multitudes of liberated Africans who had not previously come under its influence.

At length an epidemic visited the coast in the form of "yel-

low fever," which proved fatal to a large number of Europeans. Mr. Huddleston sank under that fearful disease from which very few recover ; and he breathed his last on the 20th of July, 1823, in the twenty-seventh year of his age and the third of his ministry. Thus was the Wesleyan Mission at Sierra Leone, with four chapels and large societies and congregations, once more left without a Minister, at a time when the work had assumed a most promising aspect. Mrs. Huddleston returned to England in tolerable health, and furnished the Committee with full particulars of the last illness and the death of her husband. She said : " My dear husband had not a doubt of his acceptance with God through Christ. His prospect of heaven was glorious. Shortly before he died he said, ' I shall be carried by angels into glory ; I have no wish to live but to preach to the people, and to take care of you ; but the Lord will do all things well.' He then gave himself up to prayer and praise ; and he charged me to tell the Committee that he had exerted every nerve in the cause of the Mission, and that he was dying happy in the faith."

Henry Allen

Was a young man of considerable promise as a Preacher of the Gospel. But, in the mysterious providence of God, he was called to rest from his labours almost as soon as he had entered that wider field to which he believed himself called by the great Head of the Church. He was appointed by the Conference of 1823 to the island of Jamaica. He sailed from Bristol in company with Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins and Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse on the 1st of February, 1824, and reached his destination on the 24th of March. A few days after he landed, he began to suffer from inflammation of the lungs, which proved fatal on the 17th of April, before he had been a month in the colony. During the early part of his affliction he was much tempted ; but, in answer to prayer, the Lord came to the help of His servant, and delivered him. Before he passed away his heart was filled with joy and his mouth with praise.

William Maggs

Was appointed as a Missionary to the West Indies by the Conference of 1822, his first Station being the island of St. Christopher. Few men have entered the Christian ministry in any country with brighter prospects of health and usefulness. During the short time that he was permitted to labour he endeared himself to his brethren and to the people of his charge by his ardent zeal, amiable temper, and general qualifications for the sacred office. But his course was soon run, and he was early called to his reward in heaven. He was not cut down by malignant fever like many other young Missionaries of that early period; but when he had resided but a short time within the tropics alarming symptoms of pulmonary consumption rendered it expedient for him to return to England; and about a fortnight after his arrival in Bath, his native city, he died in peace, on the 24th of November, 1824.

Henry T. Harte

Was appointed as a Missionary to Western Africa. He went out cheerfully, though he knew the danger to which he would be exposed from the unhealthy nature of the climate. Accompanied by the Rev. W. Piggott, he arrived in Sierra Leone on the 19th of March, 1824. These Missionaries were received by the native converts with the liveliest feelings of gratitude to Almighty God, because they had been remembered in their trouble; for they had been left as sheep without a shepherd since the sudden removal of their former pastors. It is said of Mr. Harte that "he evinced great heavenly-mindedness. Prayer and praise, and doing good of every possible kind and degree, were the most delightful employments of his life; and when death approached he maintained an unshaken confidence in God." He was permitted to spend only nine months in the country, and he also fell a victim to fever. Early on the morning of the day on which he died, he prayed with the friends who sat up *with him*, and said to one of them, "Jesus Christ is my fortress

and my strong tower. Thank God my salvation is at hand." Lifting up his eyes to heaven he added, "Now, Lord, I am ready to come," and shortly afterwards, without a sigh or a groan, his happy spirit took its flight from this vale of tears to that place where the inhabitants shall no more say, "I am sick." He departed this life on the 27th of December, 1824, in the twenty-seventh year of his age.

John Hirst

Was a young Missionary of more than ordinary zeal and earnestness in the cause of his Divine Master. Having received an appointment to the West Indies in 1818, he entered upon his work in a manner which excited in the minds of his brethren and friends the most pleasing anticipations of future usefulness. Nor were their hopes disappointed. For seven years Mr. Hirst laboured in the Leeward Islands with acceptance and success. and was made the honoured instrument in the hands of God of bringing many of the sable sons and daughters of Ham to a saving knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. In a joint letter addressed by Messrs. Hirst, Whitworth, and Chapman, to the Missionary Committee in London, under date of the 4th of July, 1820, on their appointment to labour together in Antigua, they say: "We arrived here on the 22nd of February, from the District Meeting, and were received in the most affectionate manner by the Society and our friends. We felt the greatness of the work, and our personal insufficiency; and this led us to rely on Him who has said, 'My presence shall go with thee;' 'My strength is made perfect in weakness.' We began our work in the name of the Lord; and have reason to say, we have not laboured in vain, nor spent our strength for nought. God has been pleased to continue and increase His work by our feeble efforts, blessed be His holy name for ever! Peace is sown in righteousness; and the fruits of righteousness abound. Many have run to the standard of the cross, and have become the avowed servants of the Lord Jesus."

The Missionary life of Mr. Hirst was somewhat chequered. On his arrival in the island of St. Bartholomew on the 3rd of

September, 1821, he found that Mr. Dace, the Missionary stationed there, had died the day before, and that he was just in time to perform the last sad ceremony over his mortal remains. A few days afterwards the island was visited by a dreadful hurricane, which, among other devastations, completely destroyed the chapel and the Minister's dwelling-house. "Such a scene of destruction," says Mr. Hirst, "I never witnessed as the next morning presented. The buildings were not merely blown down, but every part entirely separated and blown from the foundations." Mr. Hirst's last Station was Dominica, where, in the prosecution of his arduous labours, he took a severe cold which terminated his valuable life. He died in the full assurance of faith on the 19th of January, 1825. His brethren say of him: "He was a man of great integrity, of ready speech, and respectable talents; and displayed much zeal in applying the important truths which he preached to the consciences of his hearers."

John Turtle

Was a native of Ipswich. Having in early life yielded his heart to the power of saving grace, he soon afterwards began to call sinners to repentance. For about two years he acted in the capacity of a Local Preacher in his own country with credit to himself and advantage to the cause in which he was engaged. Believing himself called of God to a more extensive sphere of labour, and being deeply moved with compassion for the perishing heathen, he offered himself as a foreign Missionary, and at the Conference of 1817 was appointed to the Bahamas, in the West Indies. In those islands, and in Jamaica, he preached the Gospel for several years with acceptance and success. The spirit and manner in which Mr. Turtle laboured in the foreign field may be gathered from the tenour of his letters. Writing to the Missionary Committee in 1820, from New Providence, just after returning from a visit to the smaller islands of the group, he says: "With regard to my Circuit, I feel happy to say I believe we are doing pretty well. Our congregations are generally large and very attentive, and the Society, I trust, is alive to God. I cannot find words to express the gratitude I felt, on returning

to my Circuit, to find that the people generally were standing fast in the Lord and that I was again favoured to preach to them the words of eternal life. The tabernacles of the Lord appeared truly amiable to me; and I do not remember ever to have experienced such unspeakable pleasure in the worship of God. I see increasingly the value of immortal souls, the importance of the great work in which I am engaged, and my high responsibility to God, before whom I must shortly appear. I desire to live to Him without reserve, and to spend and be spent for the salvation of perishing sinners. It is to this that God has called me; it was for this that I was sent out at considerable expense; and it is for this that the prayers of thousands are preferred before God; and for this I shall strive earnestly as the noblest end that a rational being can possibly propose to himself."

In 1825 Mr. Turtle was appointed to Turk's Island, which he had visited some time before; and, with a mind bent on being useful, he proceeded to his Station; but disease soon obliged him to cease from public labour. This was much regretted by his brethren and the people of his charge, as he was a young man of great moral worth, and of no ordinary talents as a Minister of Christ. While he was able to go in and out before the people, his life was an example of zeal for the Divine glory, and of benevolence to mankind: and God, to whose service he had devoted his powers, was his comfort and support under a long and painful sickness. A few hours before his departure, he was heard to say, "Happy! Happy! Triumphant!" and he then added, "My departure is at hand,—it is almost done." He died in the Bahamas in the full assurance of faith, August 16th, 1825.

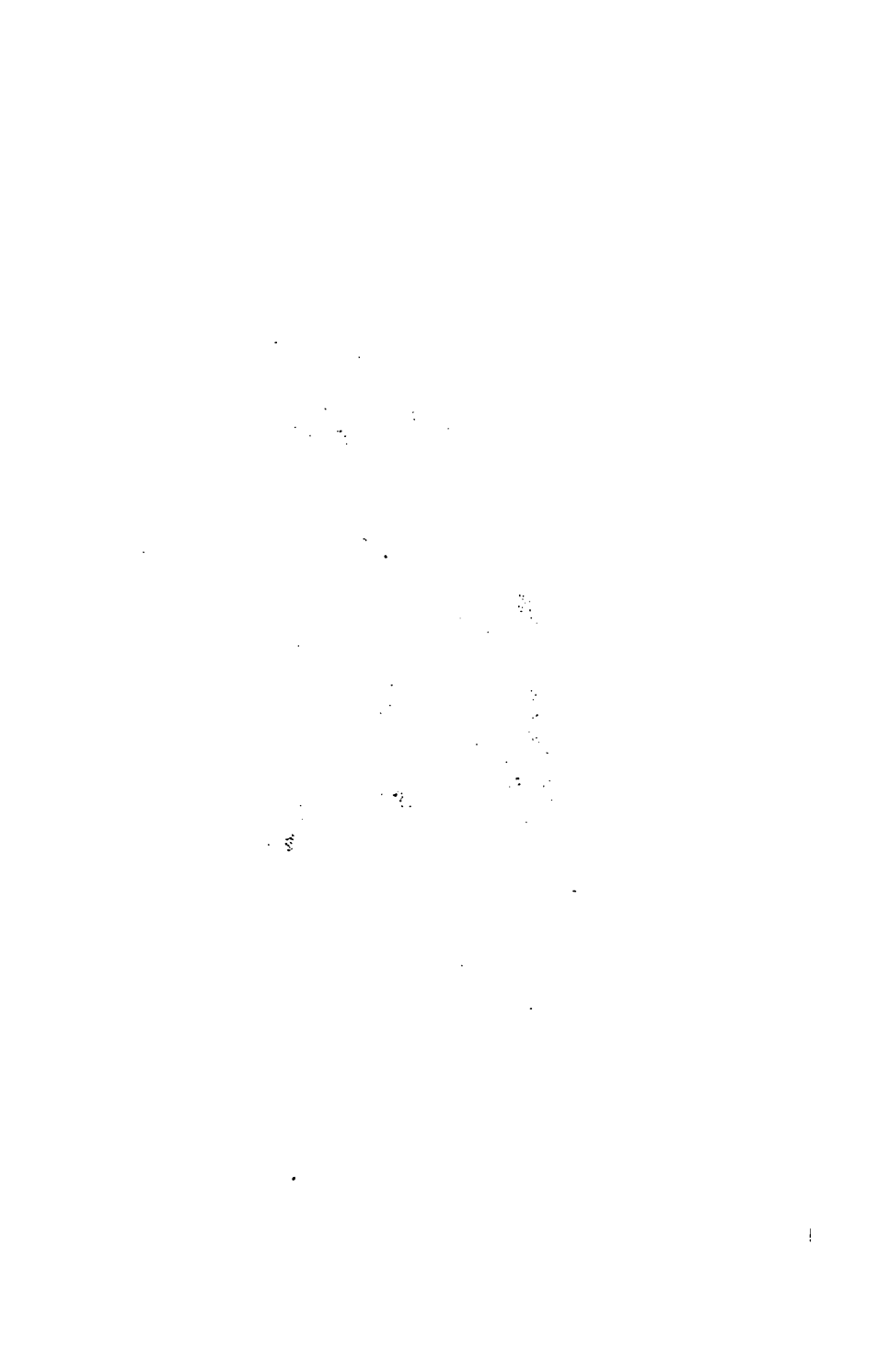
William Warrener

Was received as a Travelling Preacher by Mr. Wesley in 1779, and had laboured in different Circuits in England for seven years when he was moved by the love of Christ, and pity for the heathen, to offer himself for the foreign work. At that time Missionaries were urgently required for America, where a good work was in progress, and Mr. Warrener was one of the

brethren selected by Dr. Coke to accompany him across the Atlantic in the autumn of 1787. In the course of the voyage they met with a succession of storms and contrary winds, which completely disabled the ship and rendered it impossible for them to reach the continent of America. In this emergency the captain altered the course of the vessel, and stood before the wind for the West Indies, hoping to reach some friendly port where they might take shelter and effect the necessary repairs. After tossing about for three months in great discomfort, and sometimes exposed to imminent danger, they made the island of Antigua, and anchored in St. John's harbour at an early hour on the morning of Christmas Day. The Mission party, consisting of Dr. Coke and Messrs. Warrener, Hammet and Clarke, immediately landed; and, being aware that Mr. Baxter, a Local Preacher from England, had been successfully labouring there for some time, they intended to inquire their way to his residence, and introduce themselves to him. Before they had time to do this, however, they met the good man himself in the street on his way to the chapel to conduct the early morning service in commemoration of the birth of Christ,—a service which is highly prized in the West Indies. This was indeed a joyful meeting, and the servants of God proceeded together to His sanctuary, where they rendered thanks to Him for His providence and grace in thus bringing them in safety to a land where their labours were so much required.

Recognizing the hand of God in the events which had so unexpectedly brought him and his Missionaries to the West Indies, Dr. Coke proceeded at once to take possession of the land for Christ, so far as the means at his command would permit. Whilst the other brethren were conveyed to different islands where Missionaries were wanted, Mr. Warrener was stationed at St. John's, Antigua, to co-operate with Mr. Baxter in carrying on the work already begun. In this island and in St. Kitt's and other colonies, he continued to labour with zeal, diligence and success for ten years, during which period many souls were won for Christ through his instrumentality and the foundation of a good work laid which has continued to the present day.

In 1797 his impaired health and other circumstances induced Mr. Warrener to embark for England, where in due time he arrived in peace and safety. A returned Missionary was a *rara*





avis in those days, and great was the interest excited by his simple but thrilling statements in reference to the sufferings of the poor Negro slaves, and the wonderful work of God which was going on among them. He took a part in the first public Missionary Meeting, held in Leeds, on the 6th of October, 1813, and at similar gatherings in other places in connection with the formation of Auxiliary Societies. Having re-entered the home work Mr. Warrener continued to occupy various Circuits in England till the year 1818, when the infirmities of advancing years compelled him to retire as a Supernumerary. In this capacity he laboured, as health and strength would permit, nearly to the end of his life. His last two or three years were spent in Leeds, where he died in peace on the 27th of November, 1825, in the seventy-fifth year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his ministry. The Conference record of the death of this devoted servant of Christ concludes as follows: "During Mr. Warrener's last violent but short affliction, his Lord, in whom he had long confided, and who had been his help in former troubles, enabled him to rejoice greatly, and also to triumph gloriously over death. His character was marked by regularity, punctuality, and fidelity; and whether considered as a relative, a friend, or a colleague, he was eminently ingenuous and affectionate."

William Threlfall.

The Missionary career of Mr. Threlfall was only brief, but it was crowded with incidents of thrilling interest, and it ended in an event of a most appalling character. His efforts in his native country to extend the cause and kingdom of the Redeemer were crowned with considerable success. But, believing that he was called by God to a wider sphere of labour, he offered himself for the Mission work; and, on the 11th of September, 1820, he left his happy home in Lancashire, and proceeded to London to prepare for the scene of foreign service to which he had been designated. It was at first intended that he should go to Madagascar, a place on which his heart was fixed, and where the Wesleyan Missionary Society contemplated establishing a Mission; but circumstances occurred which rendered other

arrangements necessary, and he was ultimately appointed to South Africa. In the mean time he spent a few months in the island of Jersey, assisting the Rev. John Brown, and he soon became endeared to the people among whom he laboured.

In consequence of various causes of delay, it was not until the month of December in the following year that Mr. Threlfall finally embarked for the Cape of Good Hope, and having been detained for several weeks at Ramsgate by contrary winds, he did not reach the place of his destination until the 4th of April, 1822. For a short time after he landed at Cape Town he assisted the Missionaries stationed there; but, his services appearing to be more urgently required in the Eastern Province, he, by direction of the Chairman, embarked for Port Elizabeth, and proceeded thence to Graham's Town. After visiting various places on the colonial frontier, and supplying vacancies as occasion required, for a few months, from some unexplained cause Mr. Threlfall returned to Cape Town, and soon afterwards embarked for Delagoa Bay, in the hope of establishing a new Mission Station. But there his health failed; and he was brought back to the Cape in July, 1823, in an alarming state of illness. When his health was partially recovered he proceeded to Khamiesberg, in Little Namaqualand, to assist the Rev. Barnabas Shaw. His health having been established at Lily Fountain, he conceived the idea of extending the Mission to Great Namaqualand; and, with the sanction of his Superintendent, he set out on his last ill-fated journey about the end of June, 1825, accompanied by Jacob Links and Johannes Jaager, two native teachers. They were mounted upon trained oxen, and carried with them a few articles of merchandise on a pack ox, to barter for provisions. From notes which Mr. Shaw received from Mr. Threlfall, dated respectively July 4th, July 19th, and August 6th, it appeared that the party crossed the Orange River into Great Namaqualand, visited the Warm Bath, and proceeded towards the Fish River, without anything particular occurring beyond the annoyance experienced from the begging propensities of the natives, and the difficulty of obtaining food. After this nothing more was heard of them for several months, and fears were entertained with regard to their safety. At length intelligence reached Khamiesberg, which proved but *too plainly* that Mr. Threlfall and his companions had been

cruelly murdered soon after the date of the last communication, in the darkness of the night, by a party of Bushmen, who coveted the few articles of barter which they carried with them. The principal culprit was apprehended, tried, condemned, and executed; but the devoted Missionary thus fell in the wilderness, a martyr to his zeal and earnestness in the cause of the Redeemer.

Jacob Links

Was the youngest son of Keudo Links, a Namaqua Hottentot, of considerable respectability and influence in his tribe. In the year 1816, soon after the commencement of the Khamiesberg Mission, he was brought under the saving influence of the Gospel. He was then only seventeen years of age; but, having given satisfactory proof of genuine piety and of considerable aptitude for the work, he was soon employed as interpreter and Native Teacher. He was intimately acquainted with the Holy Scriptures, and meditated on them day and night. His improvement was so marked and satisfactory that he was ultimately promoted to the position of "Native Assistant Missionary," the first of a noble band of native agents who have since been raised up in South Africa as the fruit of Missionary labour. Jacob is described by those who knew him well as being, in his preaching, "affectionate, zealous, and faithful, rightly dividing the word of truth." He was devotedly attached to the Missionaries; and in aiding them in the good work in which they were engaged, he was ever ready to expose himself to danger, or to endure any hardship. Having laboured for some time earnestly and well among the Hottentots and Bushmen of Little Namaqualand, in the neighbourhood of Khamiesberg, he nobly volunteered to accompany the lamented William Threlfall and Johannes Jaager on their ill-fated journey across the Orange River; and, according to the confession of the principal culprit, he was the first of the party to fall by the hand of the assassin in the wilds of Great Namaqualand, in the month of August, 1825; and, with his fellow sufferers, he has no doubt received a martyr's crown.

William Gillgrass,

A name which was a household word in the humble homes of many of the poor Negro slaves in the West Indies, in the early part of the present century. Mr. Gillgrass was a Christian Missionary of more than ordinary energy, perseverance, and diligence, and was spared to labour for the long period of eighteen years among the sable sons and daughters of Ham, in the lands of their exile. Nor was his history without some striking features of interest. Having been converted to God, and called to preach the Gospel, in early life, he was employed for some time in his own country. But his ardent mind longed for a wider sphere of labour, and he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen. He was appointed to the West Indies in 1808, and entered upon his arduous work in the true spirit. In common with his brethren at that early period he had many dangers and difficulties to contend with ; but he braved them all and endured hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.

In a letter addressed to the Missionary Committee in London, dated St. Kitt's, October 8th, 1819, Mr. Gillgrass gives the following account of a fearful hurricane in which he was involved : " I write to inform you of an awful visitation of God's just displeasure against the sins of these islands, and which has not a precedent in the history of the West Indies. On Tuesday the 21st of September at day-break the heavens gathered blackness, the clouds, charged with the instruments of death and destruction, appeared flying with rapidity in every direction. I gave notice to my family that a hurricane was at hand. This alarmed them not a little, knowing the precarious state of our dwelling-house. The wind continued increasing all day, till it blew a perfect gale at sunset. We now secured all the doors and windows, and in this imprisoned state remained all night. From seven to nine o'clock the lightning was most vivid and the storm beat upon our house with a tremendous noise like volleys of cannon. The house was often shook so violently, that we could not stand without staggering. Never did a weary mariner look out for daylight with more anxiety. At last it appeared, *and, like Noah, I looked out of my window to see if the rage of*

the elements was abated. The changed aspect of the face of nature pictured the idea of a field of battle—all was wreck. Vegetation appeared destroyed. Windmills, boiling-houses, and Negro huts were levelled with the ground. Many sympathizing friends, who trembled for the old chapel and Mission-house, came early in the morning expecting to see them in ruins. That God whom we serve continually preserved us, our little ones, and our house. Some cattle perished, and a few Negroes were wounded ; but I believe none were killed."

Whilst labouring in Jamaica Mr. Gillgrass suffered persecution and imprisonment for preaching the Gospel ; and in some other islands he was called to bear the reproach of Christ, which he did patiently and faithfully. For many years he sustained the character of a good and faithful Missionary ; and many souls were saved through his instrumentality, who it is believed will be his joy and the crown of his rejoicing in that day when every faithful servant of God will receive his reward. At length his generally good health and constitution gave way under the influence of the climate and of his arduous labours. During his painful and long-continued illness his mind was kept in peace. He met his brethren at their Annual District Meeting in St. Kitt's, conversed freely with them, and appeared to be much revived by their presence. His conversation was chiefly on spiritual subjects ; and he frequently exhorted them to preach Christ, and to aim only at doing good to the souls of the people. Before the Missionaries returned to their respective Stations Mr. Gillgrass had a relapse, and finished his course with joy on the 12th of February, 1826, in the forty-ninth year of his age, and the twenty-second of his ministry. He died, as he had desired, in the presence of his brethren, and his funeral was attended by a multitude of sincere mourners.

William White.

At the close of the Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Missionaries of the Antigua District, held in St. Kitt's in 1826, the Rev. Messrs. White, Truscott, Hillier, Oke, and Jones, with Mrs. White, Mrs. Truscott, Mrs. Jones, four children, and two servants, embarked for their appointed Stations in Antigua. In the

course of their voyage they were overtaken by a violent storm, and when in sight of the island the "Maria" Mail Boat in which they sailed struck upon a rock and the whole party perished in the wreck, except Mrs. Jones who alone survived to tell the mournful tale of the sad disaster.

Mr. White was a native of London, but was taken to the United States of America very early in life. From thence his parents removed with him to Jamaica, where he received a liberal education. From a child he had the fear of God before his eyes, and whilst yet a youth he joined the Methodist Society, and became a decided Christian. He was soon afterwards appointed to the offices of Class Leader and Local Preacher; and during the ten years' persecution in Jamaica, he maintained his integrity and evinced great zeal in the cause in which he had embarked, frequently preaching to the poor Negroes in the country, and in private houses to small congregations when their Pastors were driven from their fields of labour. When called to the full work of the ministry he was distinguished by a discriminating judgment, sincere affection, and great decision of character. He exemplified in his life and conversation the purity of the Gospel, and was from principle a Wesleyan Methodist. It is further recorded of him that "he was thoroughly acquainted with our doctrines, and had studied the Scriptures with great care. He loved our discipline; and by his mildness, firmness, and steady perseverance, was well qualified to enforce its observance." He had been actively and usefully employed in the work of the Mission in various islands for twelve years when he was involved in the fearful calamity which terminated his valuable life. He showed great fortitude and presence of mind in the trying hour; but his feelings must have been keenly touched when his little son William, unconscious of the magnitude of the danger, said, while the vessel was breaking up, "Mamma, don't be afraid, we shall soon be on shore!" On the evening of February 28th, the day on which the vessel struck, the wreck parted in two, when the stern portion, to which were clinging Mr. and Mrs. White, their three children, servants, and others, went down in deep water, and they all perished in the waves.

Thomas Truscott.

Another devoted Missionary lost in the "Maria" Mail Boat was the Rev. Thomas Truscott who had laboured in Antigua, Dominica, Tortola, and St. Eustatius with acceptance and success for seven years, when his valuable life was suddenly terminated by the wreck of that ill-fated vessel. Mr. Truscott is described as a faithful Minister of Christ whose labours the Lord greatly blessed on every Station which he was called to occupy. He and his wife, child, and servant were on that part of the wreck which first gave way, and were thus mercifully saved from that lingering death which was the lot of some of their fellow-sufferers. Recollected and calm, though floating on the waves, Mr. Truscott looked affectionately towards his companions on the other part of the wreck, and cried aloud, "Farewell! The Lord bless you!" immediately after which he and his family and those who were with him sank together, and, without being divided by death, they no doubt accompanied one another to the mansions of eternal bliss, on the 28th of February, 1826.

Daniel Hillier.

The Missionary career of Mr. Hillier was marked by some striking incidents in addition to those connected with the melancholy event by which it was terminated, namely, the wreck of the "Maria" Mail Boat. Believing himself to be called of God to the work, he, in 1818, left the city of Bath where he had long resided and proceeded to the West Indies according to the appointment of Conference to preach the Gospel to the poor Negroes. After labouring for some years in different islands, he removed for the benefit of his health to British America; and having preached for some time in Canada he returned to the scene of his earlier labours. Sanctified affliction brought him nearer to God, and he made a fresh surrender of himself to the service of his Divine Master, in the duties of his sacred office. Hence he was better prepared for the awful visitation by which he was so suddenly removed out of time into eternity. Towards

the close of the second day after the vessel struck, having looked in vain for help from the island which was clearly in sight, Mr. Hillier conceived the idea of attempting to swim to the shore, in the hope of saving his own life, and of procuring help for his perishing companions. Calling upon God to whom he commended his body and soul, he committed himself to the waves ; but he had over-estimated his powers, and he had not proceeded far when he sank into a watery grave and left a wife and three children to mourn their loss, on Thursday the 2nd of March, 1826. Just before he left the ship Mr. Hillier took out his watch, and, handing it to Mr. Jones, said, "If I should not succeed, and you should be saved, give it to my wife. Farewell ! God bless you ! If we never meet again on earth, we shall meet in heaven."

William Oke

Was a native of Cornwall and was converted to God in the year 1813. By his affability, his exemplary piety, and the diligent exercise of his acceptable talents, under the influence of lively but prudent zeal, he was rendered an ornament and a blessing to his various connections ; and in proportion as he was known he was loved and esteemed in his own country, and among his own kindred. Constrained by the love of Christ, and full of ardent concern for the salvation of the heathen, he offered himself for the Mission work, and in the year 1821 was appointed to a Station in St. Kitt's in the West Indies. In that island, and in Antigua, he laboured during the four succeeding years with great faithfulness and success, having favour with God and all His people. His piety and zeal remained unabated to the last. At the mysterious close of his useful and honourable labours by the wreck of the "Maria" Mail Boat, amid the perils of the deep and in prospect of "dissolution near," his Christian fortitude was manifested by his composedly kneeling on the deck of the sinking vessel, and commending to God both his own soul and the souls of his fellow-sufferers. Notwithstanding the fatal failure of Mr. Hillier to reach the shore by swimming, on the 3rd of March Mr. Oke conceived the idea that perhaps he might succeed in the attempt, and thus be the means of saving himself *and his companions*. The thing was quite impracticable ; but in

vain Mr. Jones endeavoured to dissuade him from his purpose. Indeed he appeared to be suffering from aberration of mind, and plunged into the waves ; but he had no power to use his hands and was carried away with the current and seen no more.

Thomas Jones

Was a zealous and devoted Missionary who had only spent about two years in the West Indies when his valuable life and brief ministerial career were suddenly and mysteriously ended by the wreck of the "Maria" Mail Boat. He was the youngest of the Missionaries lost on that mournful occasion, and the last of the party who died before deliverance came. When one part of the ship separated from the other, Mrs. Jones was plunged into the deep. Her husband made a vigorous effort, and happily succeeded in rescuing her from a watery grave, and to her preservation, as the only survivor of the Mission party, we are indebted for an account of the circumstances connected with this melancholy catastrophe. Although a married man, Mr. Jones was still on probation for the office of the Christian ministry. After his examination at the District Meeting, which had just terminated, his brethren made the following honourable record of his character : " His qualifications for the sacred office are excellent : he is eminently devout ; he loves study, and exerts himself diligently." At the time that Mr. Oke sank beneath the waves Mr. Jones was reduced to a very feeble state, partly for want of food and partly from exposure to the elements for three or four days and nights without shelter. But the closing scene will be best described in Mrs. Jones's own words. She says : " Mr. Jones could now scarcely speak distinctly ; sometimes he would say, ' Let me go, for I am dying ! ' Sometimes he asked me what could be the matter with him. Every time a wave came, it washed him almost from me ; he had no power to assist himself, and one at length bore him off ; so that I had only hold of his coat collar. I called to the captain, ' Mr. Jones is drowning ! O, if you can help me, do. Do not let him drown, for he is dying ! Raise him and let him die in my arms ! ' The captain turned round and attempted to assist, but could not.

He was not able even to assist in lifting his foot over the bowsprit, but said, 'It is all over; I am dead almost myself, I cannot assist you.' I then, by a last effort, got his head upon my shoulder; but how I collected strength for the exertion I cannot tell. I continued to hold him in my arms, but frequently thought I must yield him up. Then again I thought, 'O, if I can but save him till death has ended his sufferings, I shall be satisfied.' He spoke after this, but I could not answer him for weeping, and I now felt as though my heart would break. Mr. Jones then gave a struggle, and cried aloud, 'Come, Lord Jesus!' This he repeated three times, and then exclaimed, 'Glory, glory, glory!' I held him several minutes, but he neither moved nor spoke afterwards. I spoke to him and begged him, if still alive, to move his hand; but life had fled. Although completely exhausted, I could not yield him up; but at length a wave washed him away, and he floated at my feet. The last thing I remember was saying, 'Farewell: I shall soon be with you.'"

On the afternoon of the same day, the 3rd of March, help came, and Mrs. Jones was taken from the wreck in a state of insensibility; but she happily recovered, and lived for several years afterward. The five Missionaries all found a watery grave. They

"sank low,—but mounted high
Through the dear might of Him who walked the waves."

Thomas Vasey.

The education of the Rev. Thomas Vasey, when an orphan, under the care of an uncle who was zealously attached to the Church of England, was the means of preserving him from gross immorality. But soon after he had become decidedly religious and united himself with the Methodist Society, his honoured relative put his religious principles to a severe test, by requiring him either to renounce his connection with the Society, or to abandon all hope of advantage from the considerable property *of his childless uncle*. He had firmness to prefer his spiritual

to his worldly interests ; and his uncle fulfilled his threat that he would leave him nothing.

When Mr. Wesley made arrangements for the consolidation and extension of Methodism in America, after the Revolutionary War, by the ordination of Dr. Coke as General Superintendent or Bishop, Mr. Vasey and Mr. Whatcoat were set apart as Presbyters and appointed to accompany the Doctor on his important Mission. They arrived in New York on the 3rd of November, 1784 ; and Mr. Vasey took an active part with his brethren in the deliberations of the General Conference which was convened at Christmas, when sixty out of the eighty-three Travelling Preachers, then in the American Connexion, were present, and when the foundation of the Methodist Episcopal Church was laid. He also laboured with acceptance for some time afterwards in the United States, but never appears to have felt thoroughly at home in connection with the new order of things on the other side of the Atlantic ; and he eventually returned to England to unite with his former associates in the work of the Lord.

Having been ordained by Bishop White in America, Mr Vasey was allowed by Mr. Wesley to accept an English curacy ; but in 1789 he returned to the itinerant work, in which, with much zeal and diligence, he persevered during the twenty-two following years. From 1811 to 1826 he was appointed by the Conference to read prayers and perform other light pastoral duties at City Road chapel—a kind of service quite in harmony with his early associations. At length the infirmities of age obliged him to retire as a Supernumerary, when he fixed his residence at Leeds, where he hoped to enjoy the means of grace in rich abundance. But he was not long permitted to enjoy the privileges which he so highly prized. He died suddenly on the 27th of December, 1826, in the eighty-first year of his age. It is said of this devoted Minister of Christ that “for a considerable time previous to his death, nearly one third of his time appeared to be spent in prayer ;” and he was no doubt well prepared for his final change.

Thomas Jackson Williamson

Is described as "a young man of strong understanding, great application, and promising talents." His zeal for the conversion of the heathen induced him to offer himself as a candidate for Missionary labour; and he was appointed to India in 1823. His ministry in Madras was highly acceptable, and for two or three years he laboured with apparent comfort and success. He was then overtaken, in the mysterious providence of God, by affliction and bereavement which cast a gloomy shadow over his path, and ere long issued in the termination of his brief but useful career. In 1826 his amiable wife sickened and died, "in the Lord," after a short illness. Before the close of the year he himself was attacked by a disorder which baffled the skill of his medical attendants and was accompanied by much suffering. After submitting to a painful operation, he was advised to try the effects of a voyage to the Cape of Good Hope; but before he reached his destination he sank under his accumulated sufferings. He died at sea about a week before the vessel reached Cape Town; and his remains were consigned to the watery deep till the glorious resurrection morn when "the sea shall give up the dead that are in it."

William Ratcliffe

Is described as a "young Minister of exemplary piety and attractive manners, whose talents were acceptable and useful, and who gained the general esteem of all who knew him." He was appointed as a Missionary to Jamaica in 1816, and he entered upon his work with a full determination to spend and be spent in the service of his Divine Master. The spirit and manner in which he laboured and the character of the work in which he was engaged may be gathered from a brief extract from one of his early letters to the Committee. Writing from Kingston on the 1st of June, 1817, he says: "Previously to my arrival in Jamaica my mind was variously exercised concerning the magnitude of the work I was about to enter upon, the difficulties it

would involve, and the danger I should be exposed to. But the hand of God has hitherto been with me for good, in removing my unnecessary anxiety, and opening I trust a wide and effectual door to preach the Gospel of the grace of God among a people who are thirsting for the word of life. About six weeks after I came to this island I applied to the Court of Quarter Sessions, to take the usual oaths. My application was respectfully received and granted; and, accordingly, at our District Meeting I was appointed to Kingston. Here I find myself surrounded with a peaceable, pious, affectionate and zealous people, amounting to upwards of two thousand. Our chapel is an airy, elegant building, and although it has been enlarged, yet it is by no means sufficient to contain the vast multitudes of people who desire to hear the word of salvation. When I see them on the Sabbath pouring forth from the mountains and streets leading to our chapel, I think of the prophet's grateful inquiry, 'Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as doves to their windows?' They do not creep, (for many of them come eight, or ten, and some twenty miles,) but hasten to Zion to perform their vows and honours to the Lord, and to receive His blessing, even 'life for evermore.' My soul is frequently overwhelmed with thankfulness in beholding the energy and influence of the word of God among them."

In this happy cheerful manner had Mr. Ratcliffe laboured on different Stations in the island of Jamaica for nearly nine years, sometimes exposed to persecution, violence, and insult, but "enduring hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ," when the Master said, "It is enough, come up hither," and he "ceased at once to work and live." He finished his course, after a short but severe illness, at Port Antonio, on the 15th of August, 1827. It is recorded of him that "his death was triumphant; his last expressions were those of confidence and joy." With his dying breath he whispered, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

Joseph Parkin

Was a native of Barnard-Castle, in the county of Durham, where he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in early life. Having been called of God to the work of the

Christian ministry, and having voluntarily offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, in 1820 he was appointed to Antigua. He had not laboured very long there, however, when he was obliged to return to England on account of severe indisposition. After remaining at home about a year, and being apparently restored to his wonted health, he gladly embarked once more for the West Indies to resume his beloved labours in the Mission field. On this occasion he was appointed to Morant Bay, in the island of Jamaica, where he continued until his death, which took place before the close of the following year. He is described as "a man of true piety, who endured much affliction with entire resignation to the will of God." His last public service was to preach the funeral sermon of his esteemed fellow-labourer, Mr. Ratcliffe, whose dying words, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," he selected for his text on the occasion; and during his own illness he repeatedly adopted them as peculiarly expressive of his own confidence and hope. He entered into rest on the 15th of September, 1827, in the fortieth year of his age and the sixth of his ministry.

Thomas Wilkinson

Was born on Christmas Day, 1795, at Gainsborough, in Lincolnshire. He is said to have been of a serious turn of mind from his earliest years, and, like Timothy of old, to have known the Holy Scriptures from his childhood. As his mind unfolded, he became wise unto salvation through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ; and being endowed with gifts and graces which qualified him for the work, he was in due time employed as a Local Preacher in the neighbourhood of his native place. At length it was evident that Divine Providence intended him for a wider sphere of labour, and he was induced to offer himself as a candidate for the Wesleyan ministry. He was accepted by the Conference of 1822, and received an appointment to the Isle of Man. After labouring for three years in the home work, he, in accordance with his own wishes and convictions of duty, was sent to the foreign fields. He was the first Wesleyan Missionary sent to Honduras, in Central America, a settlement generally classed with the West Indies. He arrived there in safety,

on the 26th of November, and opened his commission in the name and the strength of the Lord.

He was permitted to exercise his able and useful ministry at Honduras for but a short period ; but he proved himself well adapted for the important and responsible work of a Pioneer Missionary. The measures he adopted for the commencement of a new Mission were marked by zeal and prudence. He faithfully preached the Gospel in town and country, was successful in winning many souls for Christ, gathered a large congregation, organized a Christian Church, and procured eligible Mission premises in Belize, the capital of the colony ; and, with the kind co-operation of friends whom he attracted around him, he commenced a subscription for the erection of a suitable chapel for the accommodation of the crowds of people who were anxious to attend his instructive ministry.

Whilst in the midst of these and other useful labours he was attacked with malignant fever, which baffled the skill of the physician, and ended fatally in the course of a few days. He died as he had lived, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, in the town of Belize, on the 20th of August, 1827, in the thirty-second year of his age and the fifth of his ministry. This devoted servant of Christ is described by those who knew him as "a young man of deep piety, a Missionary of no ordinary promise." They further testify of him that "his bowels yearned over the heathen tribes who were scattered in the neighbourhood of his Station. In the midst of his usefulness and zeal, however, the great Head of the Church saw fit to call him to his reward."

Joseph Grimsdall

Was one of a large and noble band of Missionaries whose period of service in the West Indies was brief ; but whose zeal, courage, and devotedness to the service of God, were worthy of the highest commendation. He commenced his Missionary labours in Jamaica in 1825, and his efforts were crowned with considerable success. He was a man of deep and genuine piety, and maintained close and constant communion with God. His manners and habits, though plain, were such as to secure the

strongest affection of his brethren ; and the recollection of his many excellencies is still cherished by a few who have been spared to the present time. Persecution and opposition to the Missionaries and their work in Jamaica were at their height of violence in his time, and he had the honour of being insulted and imprisoned for the alleged offence of preaching the Gospel of Christ in an unlicensed house to the poor Negro slaves at Ocho Rios. But he manifested the utmost patience and fortitude under his sufferings, and appeared willing to be either abased or exalted, if he might by any means promote the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. His last illness was marked by the most perfect resignation to the will of God, and in his expiring moments, after a temporary conflict with the enemy, in which he gained a complete victory, his joy was unspeakable. He died in the full triumph of faith, on the 15th of December, 1827, sincerely regretted by his brethren, and the loving, simple-minded people among whom his brief but useful ministry had been exercised.

Thomas Johnson

Was a young Minister who was selected as the successor of Mr. Wilkinson at Honduras, when that devoted Missionary was suddenly cut down by fever, and the members of the infant Church were left as sheep having no shepherd. On entering upon his new sphere of labour at Belize, in the early part of the year 1829, Mr. Johnson gave evidence of piety, zeal, and earnestness, which proved him to be well adapted for the work in which he had engaged ; and his friends and the Society anticipated for him a prosperous and honourable career. He had only been a short time in the country, however, when he also was suddenly called away by death, and the infant Church was left a second time after the lapse of a few months without a Pastor. The record in the annals of the Church in reference to this amiable young Missionary is very brief ; but it is pleasant to learn that in the estimation of his brethren he was characterized by " true piety, fervent zeal, and eminent prudence." He died in peace in the twenty-seventh year of his age and the first of his ministry.

Thomas Charles Morgan,

Like many others who have had the honour of winning souls for Christ, was brought to God in early life, and began at once to labour for the benefit of his fellow-men. He was ultimately called to the work of the Christian ministry; and having offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, he received an appointment to Jamaica in 1826. In the order of Divine Providence, his career also was brief; but it was eminently successful whilst it lasted. It is said of him that "his piety was deep; he was a man of much prayer, and fully devoted to God. His public ministry was marked by zeal and faithfulness; and the clear and forcible manner in which he stated the doctrines of the Gospel produced, through the Divine influence, a powerful effect upon his hearers. He was an instrument of turning many to righteousness, who will be his joy and the crown of his rejoicing in the day of the Lord Jesus." Whilst his friends and brethren were anticipating for him a long and honourable course of service, he was seized with fever, which put a period to his life and labours in the short space of four days. He died in full assurance of eternal happiness, through the atonement of Christ, and entered into rest on the 2nd of September, 1828, in the twenty-sixth year of his age and the third of his ministry.

Mark Harrison

Was a young Minister of great promise to the Church of Christ. He might have occupied a prominent and honourable position at home; but, believing himself called by God to the work, he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and was accordingly appointed to the island of Jamaica in 1827. His ardent piety, his amiable disposition, and his conscientious discharge of pastoral duties, secured for him the esteem and affection of all who knew him. He diligently improved his time, and in every possible way cultivated the talents which his Divine Master had given him. In public his profiting appeared

to all. His ministry was truly edifying to the people of God, and much blessed to the conversion of sinners. Whilst his brethren and the Church were endeavouring to glorify God in him and looking forward to years of usefulness, he was suddenly cut off by fever. He died in great peace at Kingston, on the 7th of October, 1828, in the twenty-third year of his age and the third of his ministry.

William Barber

Was born in the city of Bristol, of pious and respectable parents; and the religious training with which he was favoured issued in his conversion to God in early life. When very young he manifested a glowing zeal for the salvation of sinners, and put forth all his energies to prepare himself for the efficient discharge of the duties of the Christian ministry, to which he hoped in due time to be called. He was deeply pious and possessed considerable strength of mind. He was ever intent upon self-culture and mental improvement. Nor did his zeal and application flag when he was actually promoted to the sacred office. He continued to manifest an ardent thirst for knowledge, and by diligent study attained considerable eminence in various branches of learning. His health, however, was but feeble, and for some time doubts were entertained whether he would be able to endure the rough work of the Methodist itinerancy. After many disappointments, chiefly arising from the cause just mentioned, he received an appointment to Gibraltar as a Missionary to the Spaniards; and he neglected no opportunity of preparing himself for his new and arduous Station.

On reaching his destination in the early part of 1824, Mr. Barber commenced his labours with zeal and diligence for the benefit of the military as well as the Spanish and other residents at Gibraltar. He speedily gained the confidence of the people of his charge, and had the happiness of living in their affections as well as of seeing some considerable fruit of his labours. When he had prosecuted his beloved work for more than three years, and was contemplating a change of Station, it pleased God to visit the settlement with a fearful epidemic in the form

of yellow fever, sometimes called "the plague." Hundreds of the inhabitants fell victims to this awful scourge, and before it passed away the devoted Missionary was numbered among them. From the commencement of the epidemic he had a presentiment that he should fall under it. Notwithstanding this he resolved to attend faithfully to the duties of his office. Confidence in God sustained him; and in the midst of the "pestilence which walketh in darkness, and the destruction which wasteth at noon-day," he was found at his post, ministering to the spiritual necessities of the sick and the dying. While visiting the hospital he was seized by the disease. He was prepared for the event; and in the full exercise of faith in the atonement of Christ, in the enjoyment of the richest consolations of the Holy Spirit, he expired on the 26th of October, 1828, after an illness of five days. His death was sincerely lamented by all who knew him.

John Manley

Is described by his brethren and fellow-labourers as "a man of genuine and deep piety, good ministerial abilities, and fervent zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of men." Having received an appointment as a Missionary to the West Indies, he left England at the close of the year 1824; and from that period to the time of his decease he maintained a consistent character as a Minister of Christ. He closely studied the word of God, and had an extensive acquaintance with its truths. His humility was remarkable; and he was always ready to sit at the feet of his brethren and to co-operate with them in every good work. On the respective Stations which he occupied in the Antigua District, during his brief career, his labours were made a great blessing, especially to the people of God. Whilst actively engaged in the service of his Divine Master he was suddenly smitten down by fever, which soon ran its course, and at the end of four days he was released from his toil and his suffering. He died in Tortola, November 13th, 1828, deeply regretted by all who knew him. Throughout the whole of his last illness, when able to speak, he expressed strong confidence in God; and his end was eminently peaceful and happy. The only thing

that seemed to concern him in his last moments was the fate of his poor motherless boy, not twelve months old; and he said to his colleague: "O, what will become of John?" Mr. Hunt replied, "The Lord will take care of him." "That is enough for me," he added; "he has been given to the Lord in baptism, and has been commended to Him in prayer; and I hope the Lord will set His mark upon him." When his sufferings were most intense he said, "The Lord is my Rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him."

"With me in the fire remain,
Till like burnished gold I shine,
Meet through consecrated pain
To see the face Divine."

William Hunt.

Five days after the death of his esteemed colleague Mr. Manley, the Rev. William Hunt, who had laboured as a Missionary in the West Indies about three years, was seized with fever. On hearing of the death of one of the Missionaries and of the illness of the other, the Rev. John Felvus, of St. Kitt's, hastened to Tortola to render any assistance in his power. Describing his visit and the last days of his afflicted friend and brother, Mr. Felvus says: "I took a passage in a small boat on the 28th of November, and landed in Tortola on the 29th, and to my great sorrow found brother Hunt exceedingly ill. When he heard that I was come, he showed signs of joy, and when I went into the room he clasped me in his arms and held me to his breast for some time. That night he got a little rest, and I spoke to him about his soul. He told me he was perfectly happy in the love of God, and resigned to His will either to live or die. After attending next day to the Sabbath services of the Station, I again visited him. He still seemed cheerful. I called again in the evening and found there was a change for the worse. After a little pause I asked him what he thought of his present sickness. He replied, 'I think I shall die.' I then asked him how he felt in the prospect of death. He replied, 'Happy; I am at *with God*. I do not now feel those transports of joy which

I have felt, and which some feel in my situation ; but I have a settled peace.' He continued to linger till about three o'clock in the afternoon of December 1st, 1828, when he breathed his happy spirit into the hands of God."

Mr. Hunt is described as "an affectionate husband, a kind father, a sincere friend, a pious Christian, a faithful Minister, a Missionary from principle ; and one whom God had greatly owned and blessed in his pulpit ministrations, especially on his last Station. In his pastoral visits he was open, candid, meek, and affectionate. He both loved and preached the Gospel ; and there is no doubt but he fell a martyr to his very extensive and zealous labours."

John May

Regarded himself as a child of Providence from his infancy. He was in fact trained and educated at the Foundling Hospital, in London, and had proved the truth of the promise, "When my father and mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." Having been brought to God in early life, and called to the work of the Christian ministry, he was appointed as a Missionary to Sierra Leone in 1826 with his own free consent ; and in that sickly climate he laboured for nearly two years with much success, the Divine blessing accompanying him in his work of preaching the Gospel, and in his pastoral care of the societies. He had nearly fulfilled the period of his appointment and was preparing for his return to England, when he was smitten down with malignant fever which terminated fatally in the course of a few days. He died in the full triumph of faith, at Free Town, on the 4th of October, 1828, in the twenty-ninth year of his age and the third of his ministry. The moral and ministerial character of Mr. May was blameless. He was a deeply humble, zealous, and faithful servant of Christ, living wholly for God ; and in the midst of danger and death he steadily and cheerfully persevered in his work, until called to his eternal home in the "better country."

James Alexander

Was born at Bradford in Wiltshire. He commenced his career as a Missionary, in the West Indies, in 1794. At that early period the devoted men of God who gave themselves up to the arduous work of instructing the Negro slaves in the elementary truths of the Christian religion had to endure many privations and discomforts, to say nothing of the direct opposition and persecution with which they were frequently assailed. Of such evils Mr. Alexander had his full share ; but he bore up under them with Christian courage and fortitude, and for six years successfully preached the Gospel in Antigua, St. Kitt's, and other islands. In the year 1800 he returned to England and thenceforth was engaged in the home work, occupying various Circuits with credit to himself and advantage to the cause of God. In 1819 failure of health obliged him to become a Supernumerary, but he continued to preach occasionally until a few months before his decease. His last affliction was borne with resignation to the Divine will ; and he was graciously supported under his sufferings. He died at Wimborne, on the 26th of January, 1829, in the sixty-first year of his age and the thirty-first of his ministry.

John Courties

Was a young Minister of promising abilities, who volunteered to become a Missionary to Western Africa, at a time when the unhealthy climate had told fearfully on European residents of all classes, and when the enterprise was regarded as specially perilous. He accompanied Mr. May to Sierra Leone in 1826 ; and by his zeal and diligence in the Mission he earned for himself a good reputation as a faithful Missionary of the Cross. But his race was soon run. He only survived his colleague a few months, and was then called to rest from his labours. Having been repeatedly brought to the gates of death by successive attacks of fever, Mr. Courties made arrangements for returning *to England early in 1829, and embarked in a state of great bodily*

weakness, with the hope that he would rally when he got out to sea. But the poor sufferer became weaker and weaker, and three days after leaving the port of Free Town he peacefully breathed his last. He died on the 4th of February in the thirtieth year of his age and the third of his ministry. His body was committed to the watery deep "in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ." Thus mysteriously was this servant of God removed from evil to come; for the vessel never reached England, but became a total wreck, the passengers and crew barely escaping with their lives.

William Rowland Peck

Was born at Loughborough in 1805. In his eighteenth year he was converted to God; and from that period he employed himself in every possible way for the benefit of his fellow-men. Having been made extensively useful as a Local Preacher in his own neighbourhood, he yielded to the convictions of his mind, and offered to carry the Gospel of Christ to the tribes of Africa. His offer was accepted, and he was appointed as a Missionary to Sierra Leone, and embarked for that colony on the 9th of October, 1828. On his arrival at his Station, he entered upon his labours with great zeal; and his Divine Master honoured his ministry by making it instrumental in the salvation of many souls. Whilst contemplating extensive plans of usefulness, and animated by the prospect of immediately carrying them into effect, he died of fever, on the 3rd of July, 1829, after a few days' illness, in the twenty-fourth year of his age and the first of his ministry. He was a young man of deep and fervent piety, and of great promise as a Christian Missionary; and he died in peace, praying for the people to whom he had been sent to minister.

William Munro

Was another young Minister who nobly volunteered to go to Western Africa at a time when Europeans were rapidly falling as victims to the climate. It is said of him that "he was

brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in early life ; and his subsequent conduct was worthy of his religious profession. His call to the ministry was clear and satisfactory ; and his labours as a Local Preacher were both useful and acceptable." But he felt it his duty to preach the Gospel to the heathen. His ministerial gifts were of a superior order, and qualified him for almost any Station ; but, preferring the post of danger, he requested to be sent to Sierra Leone. He sailed in the same ship with Mr. Peck, to whom he was ardently attached, and in conjunction with him laboured with great zeal, diligence, and success, till it pleased the great Head of the Church to call him to Himself. When his friend and colleague was prostrated by fever, Mr. Munro attended him with all possible affection ; and when called to close his eyes in death, and consign his remains to the grave in a foreign land, he felt his bereavement most acutely. But he was not long left behind. On the evening of the day on which Mr. Peck was buried, Mr. Munro was attacked with fever ; and, after lingering for five days, he was released from his sufferings, and entered into rest. He died on the 8th of July, 1829. He was a young man of good understanding, deep piety, amiable manners, and great diligence ; and his early death was sincerely lamented by his surviving friends.

Richard Stoup

Was a native of Boston, in Lincolnshire ; and his parents, occupying a respectable position, gave him the rudiments of a good education in the Grammar School of that town. In early life he was converted to God through the instrumentality of Methodism. He continued through life to adorn the doctrine of God his Saviour by a holy walk and conversation. Having been called to the sacred office, he, in 1824, was sent out as a Missionary to Ceylon, where he laboured for six years with acceptance. His health and constitution then gave way ; and, after a painful illness of more than four months' continuance, which he endured with Christian resignation, he died happy in God on the 5th of October, 1829. It is recorded of him that "he was a young man of genuine piety and pleasing manners," and that "he possessed considerable talents as a Preacher."

Thomas Kennington Hyde

Was a Missionary of more than ordinary eminence and usefulness. He was appointed to the West Indies in 1819, and for ten years took an active and prominent part in Missionary work. We have no particulars concerning his early life ; but his brethren describe him as a man "constitutionally ardent, undaunted by difficulties, diligent in the improvement of his time, and indefatigable in the employment of his respectable talents in the important work to which he was devoted." He was bold in reproving sin, patient under insult and injury, and zealous for the salvation of souls ; and he was honoured by his Master with eminent success.

His correspondence with the Missionary Committee was both frequent and copious ; and the following brief extract from one of his earlier letters, written from St. Kitt's, in August, 1820, will show the spirit in which he met some of the ordinary trials of Missionary life : "Mrs. Hyde has been down twice in the fever, and otherwise afflicted, and once she was supposed to be in danger. I have been down once with fever, ague, and sore throat ; and am at present very much troubled with a bilious complaint which I never had in England. But God has been with us to strengthen our weakness, and to cheer our souls with unclouded prospects of heavenly enjoyment. You will not, I hope, infer from my naming these visitations first, that they occupy a greater share of my attention than the more apparent mercies of God ; or that I have a desire to avoid a repetition of them by leaving this 'valley of the shadow of death' for a more agreeable climate. No, I feel no such wish. I am happy in my situation. I love my Station and am much delighted with my work ; for, thank God, I have seldom preached without the witness that He was with me, and spoke by me. I am truly thankful to say that our Society and schools still continue in a prosperous state."

Nor did the zeal of Mr. Hyde decline as years rolled on. Writing from Nevis in December, 1828, in reference to the efforts he was making to raise funds for the Society in response to the Committee's appeal for aid, he says : "I set out followed by

the prayers of those I had left at home. But the Lord had gone before me. It was 'the day of His power,' for I found the 'people willing;' and I had to wonder and adore at almost every step I took. All received me very kindly, and from no house was I sent away altogether unsuccessful. When I had finished my work, I had the great joy of counting fifty-three new subscribers, whose joint subscriptions amount to £58. 10s *per annum*." At the same time the devoted Missionary was labouring incessantly to win souls for Christ, being often cheered by seeing the pleasure of the Lord prosper in his hands. At length his health and constitution began to give way and he contemplated a visit to his native land, with the hope of recruiting his strength. But the great Head of the Church determined otherwise. He and his excellent wife were called away to their eternal reward within a few days of each other. In his last sickness Mr. Hyde was enabled to triumph in God, and at length he quietly fell asleep in Jesus on the 17th of January, 1830.

William Jenkin

Feared God from the age of thirteen years; and being ardently desirous of mental improvement, he separated himself from the vanities of youth, and by intense application, which no discouragement could repress, he made considerable progress in various branches of useful learning. On obtaining an assurance of his personal interest in Christ, he became deeply concerned for the salvation of others; and he was accepted as a candidate for the Wesleyan Ministry by the Conference of 1797. The next year he volunteered to go as a Missionary to the West Indies, and accordingly received an appointment to the island of St. Christopher. Having embarked for that Station, he was shipwrecked on the coast of Ireland.

He reached his destination on the 2nd of March, 1799. Writing home he gave the following account of the disaster referred to: "I am at length, by the blessing of God, arrived at the place of my destination, after enduring some considerable hardships. We embarked on board a ship at Bristol and put to sea. But after five days' beating to the windward, we were *obliged to bear up again for Bristol*, where we waited some time

longer for a fair wind. We made two attempts more without success. But trying a fourth time, and getting some distance from Bristol, a heavy gale of wind came on, which split our foretopsail and obliged us to put into Milford Haven. Having repaired our damages, we set sail again with the intention of going to Cork, and joining the West India fleet. But a terrible storm overtook us on the Irish coast, which carried away our foretopmast, broke our rigging, and rent most of our sails in pieces; in consequence of which we were driven on shore at a place called Old Head, off Kinsale. The ship bilged and filled with water almost as soon as she touched the ground. One sea struck in the cabin deadlights, while the succeeding tremendous waves beat on us with such violence, that we expected the vessel would quickly fall to pieces. When the ship first struck, I betook myself to the shrouds; but apprehending that the mast would soon give way, I came down, and resolved to take my station on the deck with the rest, and await the event. Our sufferings were very great for the space of four hours, while the sea made a constant way over us, and threatened to wash us off the wreck. When the water ebbed the vessel was left almost dry, and so we escaped on shore. But when we had got into our quarters we were surrounded by robbers who plundered us of every article we had carried on shore with us. I was apprehensive that the robbers would have murdered us, but providentially a party of soldiers came to our assistance; and they fired upon the plunderers and killed four of them, which intimidated the rest, and they dispersed."

Nothing daunted by these accumulated misfortunes, the intrepid Missionary, having received much kindness from warm-hearted Methodists at Kinsale and Cork, embarked once more for the West Indies in another ship, and reached St. Christopher's in safety, calling at Barbadoes on the way. Mr. Jenkin was favourably impressed with the appearance of his Station; but his health and constitution had received such a shock by his exposure in the shipwreck that he was soon obliged to return to England. There he laboured for a few years and in 1815 retired as a Supernumerary. It is recorded of him that he was "an able Minister of the Gospel. His life was exemplary and his end was peace." He finished his course on the 19th of May, 1830, in the 73rd year of his age.

John Jenkins,

Who in early life became acquainted with God, walked to the close of his pilgrimage in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost. In 1824 he was appointed to the West Indies, where he continued to labour with indefatigable diligence and zeal until extreme debility, occasioned by repeated attacks of fever, led him to return to England, hoping that a change of climate would be the means of restoring his health. But the hope was not realized. He returned home only to suffer and to die. For some time he bore great affliction with exemplary patience, having an unshaken confidence in God, and a hope full of immortality. He finished his course with joy, on the 9th of August, 1830.

James Vowles

Was born in Bath, of pious parents. When about fifteen years of age he found redemption in the blood of Christ, even the forgiveness of his sins; and he afterwards received the blessing of perfect love. After labouring acceptably and usefully as a Local Preacher for two years he entered upon the work of the ministry at home. But offering himself as a Missionary to the heathen he was soon afterwards sent to Jamaica, where he arrived in the month of March, 1829. The next year he was stationed at Port Antonio; in which Circuit his labours were owned by God. His health in general was good at first, but before many months had passed away he was attacked by a malignant fever which baffled the skill of the physician, and after lingering for six days he died in peace on the 16th of August, 1830, in the twenty-fourth year of his age and the second of his ministry. His brethren bore the following honourable testimony to his character: "His talents were highly respectable; his profiting appeared to all; and his amiable disposition greatly endeared him to his brethren, and to all who knew him." We remember hearing from the lips of his young widow, on her arrival in England, the touching story of her *painful bereavement*.

Robert J. Snelgrove

Was a young Minister of unexceptionable character and undoubted piety. Having expressed a willingness to engage in the foreign work, he received an appointment to a Station in the New Brunswick District, British America. When on his passage to that country, on the 19th of August, 1830, he was unfortunately drowned at sea, having fallen overboard in a gale of wind, when no means were available by which he could be rescued from a watery grave. The intelligence of this disaster occasioned great sorrow in the minds of the people among whom he was expected to labour, as well as to his friends and the Society at home, who were not prepared for such a sudden and painful bereavement.

Richard Marshall

Was a native of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He had pious relatives who took an interest in his early religious training. Whilst quite a youth he was brought under gracious religious influences. His convictions of sin were deep and powerful, and as he sought the Divine favour with great sincerity, his godly sorrow was soon turned into spiritual joy. From the time of his conversion to God, he was desirous to preach the Gospel to the heathen ; and after labouring in his own neighbourhood for two years as a Local Preacher, he in 1828 received an appointment as a Missionary to St. Mary's on the River Gambia, Western Africa. He reached his destination on the 18th of November, and aided by his devoted wife commenced his labours in the proper spirit. He had toiled for nearly two years amid many difficulties, but with considerable success, when he was suddenly cut down by malignant fever. He died in great peace on the 19th of August, 1830, after an illness of five days. Two days after her painful bereavement Mrs. Marshall embarked for England with her infant son and an African nurse. She arrived in Bristol in a state of great mental and bodily

suffering ; and she expired about forty-eight hours after she landed on the shores of her native country, and before she had an opportunity of seeing any of her friends or relatives who resided in the North of England. The Missionary's orphan boy was brought to the Mission House in London by his faithful African nurse, where the writer of these Biographical Sketches saw them ; and his heart was so moved with the story of this sad bereavement, and with the account given of a Station being left without a Missionary, that he volunteered his services and was appointed to the Gambia as the successor of Mr. Marshall. There he frequently heard the most honourable and emphatic testimonies to the zeal, diligence, and entire devotedness of the departed Missionary and his heroic wife. Ebenezer ! "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

James Penman, Jun.,

Was the son of a Wesleyan Minister of the same name. Having been converted to God in early life, he, in 1826, was called to the work of the ministry ; and after travelling in England for two years he was appointed as a Missionary to Jamaica, where he arrived in March, 1829. His period of foreign service was short but successful. He was a young man of great promise, and truly devoted to the work in which he was engaged. For some time previous to his last illness he appeared to be more than usually spiritually-minded, and although the disease by which his valuable life was terminated was of such a nature as to render him incapable of expressing himself distinctly in his dying moments, his friends had satisfactory evidence that on departing this life he entered "into the joy of his Lord." He died on the 8th of November, 1830, in the twenty-seventh year of his age, and the fifth of his ministry.

William Saxon

Was carefully trained up in the good and the right way by *his pious* parents. In the twentieth year of his age, he experienced the pardoning love of God, and became a decided

follower of Christ. In the year 1829 he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and received an appointment to the island of Jamaica. He entered upon his work with much zeal and earnestness, and a hope was entertained that he would be spared to be eminently useful in the Church of Christ. His earnest and affectionate manner of preaching endeared him to the people among whom he laboured ; and he was highly esteemed for his active and unwearied exertions to improve the rising generation. But, in the order of Divine Providence, his honourable and useful career was suddenly cut short by an attack of fever. He died in the Lord at Belmont, on the 27th of November, 1830, in the twenty-seventh year of his age, and the second of his ministry.

Duncan M'Coll.

It frequently happens that little mention is made in the records of the Church of the toils and triumphs of God's faithful servants ; but their " witness is in heaven, and their record is on high." Of the early life and labours of the Rev. Duncan M'Coll we know little or nothing. He entered the ministry in 1793 ; and, after labouring in different Circuits for thirty years, he was obliged by the failure of his health to retire from the full work, and to become a Supernumerary. He still assisted his brethren as his strength would permit, until the Master called him. He died in peace at St. Stephen's, New Brunswick, (where he had lived and laboured for many years,) on the 17th of December, 1830. " He left satisfactory evidence of having departed this life in peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ."

" Servant of God, well done !
Rest from thy loved employ :
The battle fought, the victory won,
Enter thy Master's joy."



FIFTH DECADE.

1831—1840.

William Pichott.

IN a brief notice, which appears in the periodical records of the Society, of the character and the labours of the Rev. William Pichott, he is described as "a young Minister of simple, unassuming manners, of genuine piety, and ardent zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of souls." In the year 1826, he was appointed to a Station in the West Indies. He laboured with success in different islands for five years. Having completed the period of his probation satisfactorily, he was contemplating with pleasure a visit to his native land, when he was somewhat suddenly cut down by fever, and called to rest from his labours. In reporting the melancholy event to the Missionary Committee, the Rev. J. Cadman says: "I am sorry to inform you that we have received the painful intelligence of brother Pichott's death. We understand he got wet by attending a funeral; a day or two after he felt unwell, and complained of a pain in his head, and on the fourth day of his illness died triumphantly in the faith. He was much elated at the thought of visiting his native land; and was, at the last District Meeting, remarkably cheerful. His labours during the past year at Dominica had been much blessed; and his examination at the District Meeting furnished pleasing evidence that he had pursued his studies with increasing diligence and profit. The wise Disposer of all events has seen fit to take His servant to Himself, and it remains for us to submit to His blessed will." Mr. Pichott died in peace in the island of *Dominica*, on the 20th of March, 1831.

Robert Snowdall.

Few men have earned for themselves a better reputation as faithful and earnest Missionaries of the Cross, than Mr. Snowdall earned during a comparatively short ministerial career. He is described by his brethren as "a steady, watchful, benevolent and affectionate Minister of the Gospel; remarkably conscientious in his attention to duty, and exact and punctual in his engagements." He was appointed to South Africa in 1824, and in Capetown, Wynberg, and Simon's Town, he laboured for several years. He was made very useful to the coloured native population of the Cape, but more especially to his fellow-countrymen resident there, as settlers and British soldiers.

Writing to the Missionary Committee in the month of August, 1830, and adverting to the last-named sphere of usefulness, Mr. Snowdall says: "On the Cape Station I feel thankful to state that the Lord has in some degree blessed our endeavours to spread the knowledge of salvation and to bring sinners to a knowledge of Himself. From the circumstance of a considerable number of the Cape Society being military, it has been exceedingly fluctuating. During my stay here societies have been formed in three successive regiments, which have proceeded to India or elsewhere. But it is a pleasing consideration, that though removed, they have carried with them the good seed of the kingdom to other and, in some cases, entirely destitute parts." Speaking of Simon's Town, he remarks, "I feel a strong attachment to this place and people; as previous to my visiting them in August, 1826, the Dutch inhabitants particularly were entirely destitute of the means of grace. But the Lord has blessed them: they have now a neat, comfortable and substantial chapel; a Christian congregation and Society; numbers have learned and are learning to read the Word of God, and are sincerely inquiring the way to Zion, with their faces thitherward; hymns of praise and the voice of prayer now ascend from the humble dwellings, where before was wretchedness in the extreme. The reformation in the conduct and the improved appearance of the people is matter of astonishment to those who witness them. To God be all the praise."

Soon after this letter was written Mr. Snowdall was instructed to proceed to the interior to join the Rev. T. L. Hodgson at Bootschnaap, and to assist him in the Bechuana Mission. When on his way to his distant Station, he was detained by sickness at Graham's Town; and after a severe illness of about four weeks, during which he exemplified the spirit and patience of a Christian, he suddenly expired on the 24th of March, 1831. The writer has laboured on the Stations once occupied by Mr. Snowdall at the Cape of Good Hope; and he often heard him spoken of in terms of the greatest respect by those who had been benefited by his labours.

John Sarjant

Was a young Minister of very promising talents. He was selected by the Society to take a part in the commencement of a new Mission in the isle of Mauritius. He embarked in company with the Rev. H. D. Lowe in the early part of the year 1830, at a time when all classes, from the slave to the master, were deeply demoralized and greatly needed increased means of religious instruction. The Missionaries met with a cordial reception from the Rev. Mr. Le Brun, of the London Missionary Society, who had been labouring there single-handed for some time, and from a few other friends who were anxious to promote the success of the undertaking. In their first letter to the Committee, written in the month of June, they say: "In conclusion, our souls are grieved in beholding the cloud of moral and spiritual darkness which rests upon this island, especially upon that part of the population to which we are sent; but the Gospel, which we hold in our hearts and hands, and that alone, is able to dispel the darkness of death, and lead the soul to life and immortality."

Mr. Sarjant was well adapted for the work which he had undertaken; and there is reason to believe that, had his life been spared, he would have been made a great blessing to many. During his short time he laid himself out in every possible way for the good of his fellow-men. Both he and his colleague *preached in Port Louis and the neighbourhood to soldiers and civilians, and visited the estates in the country districts with*

unwearied diligence for more than a year; but before the arrangements were completed for the permanent establishment of the new Mission, Mr. Sarjant was called to rest from his labours. He was smitten with malignant fever, and died triumphantly happy in God after a few days' illness, on the 10th of June, 1831, rejoicing in having "offered himself as a Missionary to the most degraded people in the world." His funeral was attended by a number of sincere mourners, and his grave, in the beautiful cemetery of Port Louis, may still be seen near to the spot where sleep the remains of the sainted Harriet Newell, a Missionary's wife, interred there about eighteen years before. Mr. Sarjant's last resting-place is marked by a plain stone, erected by the subscriptions of a few pious soldiers who had been benefited by his ministry, and who cherished his memory with fond affection. "The memory of the just is blessed."

John Shaw,

Like many other young Missionaries who went out to the West Indies at an early period, had but a brief course; but it was marked by much earnestness and zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of men. He received an appointment to the Bahamas in 1829, and laboured in several of the islands for about three years. Describing a visit which he had paid to some of the out-Stations in 1830, he says: "At Savannah Sound the Lord has greatly revived His work. The people have repaired the chapel and Mission-house, so that both are now comfortable. They have prayer-meetings three or four times a week, and the Sunday School is well attended. I was not a little surprised, when I went into the school on the Sabbath morning, to see the adult slaves teaching their masters and mistresses to read; and they submitted to be taught like little children. In truth the people at this place seem to be of the right spirit."

Although the Bahama islands are favoured with a climate more temperate and healthy than the climate of some other parts of the West Indies, the Missionaries are much exposed in visiting the out-Stations in *small* open boats. Whilst engaged in this

kind of work Mr. Shaw caught a severe cold, which brought on a fever, of which he died in a very short time. In his last illness he was graciously supported, and he died in peace at Nassau, New Providence, on the 2nd of April, 1832.

George Newlove

Was sent out as a Missionary to Canada in the early part of 1832. Previously to his departure he had spent several months in London in preparation for his Mission, and was highly esteemed by the friends there for his humble spirit, devout habits, and promising gifts. Three days after his arrival in Montreal he was attacked with Asiatic cholera, which, in the short space of ten hours, ran its rapid course; and the devoted young Missionary was numbered with the dead. Mr. Lunn, the gentleman who kindly received him, and at whose house he died, in reporting to the Committee the sad bereavement, says: "Every means that human skill could devise was adopted to arrest the progress of the disease with which he was attacked. When I went to his bedside he said to me, 'I am going home;' he then clasped his hands together and said, 'Glory to God! glory to God!' I mentioned to him that the medical men expressed hopes of his recovery, and said I hoped the Lord had some work for him to do, and that he would be spared. He replied, 'I shall be thankful, and will serve Him faithfully.' The disease, however, increased; and, on the afternoon of June 26th, 1832, he entered into rest. How mysterious are the ways of Providence! Just as Mr. Newlove was ready to commence his labours, as a faithful, useful Minister, he is taken away. His death is a great loss to the Church, and a great loss to the country, where faithful Ministers are so much wanted, and where the people are crying out for help."

Richard Pope

Was appointed, in 1816, as a Missionary to Canada, and entered upon his work in a manner which gave good hope of future

success. Nor was that hope disappointed. It is matter of regret, however, that in the ardour of his zeal he over-exerted himself in the discharge of his important duties, which were very heavy in that newly-settled country in which his lot was cast. The character of his work, and the spirit in which he laboured, may be learned from a brief extract from one of his letters to the Missionary Committee in London. Writing from St. Armand's, on the 8th of April, 1818, he says :

"St. Armand's is about fifty miles from Montreal. I preach there one half of my time, and in the township of Dunham the other. There are many hundreds of our fellow-mortals in the woods of British North America and in this vicinity, who are destitute of the means of salvation. Surely it is charity of the noblest kind to send to these perishing souls 'the glorious Gospel of the blessed God.' The labour of this Circuit is too much for one man ; by endeavouring to attend to every call, I have greatly impaired my health. I have been advised by my friends to give up some of the places until I can obtain help ; this I cannot do : I cannot resist the cry, 'Come over and help us.' I intend, by the help of God, to do all I can till some one comes to my assistance. I have been two days confined to my room, having taken a severe cold ; and although I am at present scarcely capable of writing, I expect in a day or two to resume my usual labours. I can truly say my soul is engaged in this noble employment of 'preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ,'—a work for which none is too great or too high. I delight in the sacred service of the sanctuary, and I humbly hope and pray that the Lord may make me useful. This is the only end worth living for : my time and talents are His, and by His permission I intend to devote them all to Him."

These high and holy purposes were nobly carried out by Mr. Pope, but it was at no inconsiderable sacrifice. No doubt the arduous labours of his early years in the Mission field laid the foundation of that disease which cut short his work in the prime of life. After toiling amid many difficulties but with considerable success for thirteen years his health entirely failed and he was obliged to retire as a Supernumerary. After suffering for some time he died in peace at Quebec, on the 2nd of September, 1832. It is recorded of him that "in every Circuit in which he laboured his sincere and fervent piety procured for him the

respect and affection of the people; and God succeeded his endeavours by His effectual blessing."

Abraham Whitehouse

Was favoured to spend a much longer time in the Mission field than many of those who were appointed to Stations within the tropics at an early period of the enterprise. Nor was his career without some points of considerable interest. He was born at Birmingham of pious parents, attached members of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, who were careful to train up their children in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." The blessing of God attended their efforts. In early life Abraham was brought to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, and in due time was called to preach to others "the unsearchable riches of Christ." After having officiated for some time as a Local Preacher he was accepted by the Conference for the full work of the ministry. In 1813 he offered himself for the foreign work, and received an appointment to the West Indies, where he laboured with great zeal, perseverance, and usefulness for twenty years, with comparatively little interruption from any cause.

From a number of letters before us written by Mr. Whitehouse we extract a few sentences illustrative of the character of his work and of the manner in which he laboured. Writing from Antigua, in April, 1821, he says: "I rejoice that in representing to you the state of spiritual affairs in this island at this time, there is so much reason for gratitude to God for the past, and so much ground of encouragement to us in our future operations. On my arrival at St. John's I found the members of Society at peace among themselves and in love one with another, zealously affected in the best of causes, and unitedly labouring to promote in their respective spheres the happiness of mankind and the glory of God in the salvation of souls. I do not know that I have yet met with a people so generally humble and yet so zealous. On the 5th of February a Missionary Society was formed in this town. The interest excited was *very great*, and the subscriptions and collections amounted to £93 currency, exclusive of a quantity of trinkets which were

thrown into the boxes. These, by all who know the attachment of the people of the West Indies to their ornaments of gold, will be accounted as no mean trophies of the Cross. We have above five hundred children under instruction in our schools: of those who are able to read the New Testament, thirty-seven have agreed to learn the whole of that blessed book by heart. They bring a chapter every Wednesday morning. Several of the elder scholars have joined the Society, and bid fair for the kingdom of heaven."

For several years Mr. Whitehouse was the active and honoured Chairman of the Antigua District, a position which involved much care and anxiety, in addition to the constant labours of a Missionary. In 1832 his health seriously failed; but rather than relinquish his post of duty entirely he took a voyage to the United States. He returned to Nevis in the month of November, as he thought, much better; but his friends saw little improvement. He preached a few times only, and then began rapidly to sink. About Christmas he embraced the opportunity of going over to St. Kitt's with a friend, hoping to receive benefit by the change, and to procure more efficient medical advice. But it was of no avail. He gradually declined, until on Thursday, the 10th of January, 1833, he "entered the joy of his Lord." His death was eminently peaceful. Just before he died he said, "Blessed be God, all is bright sunshine with me here, I see no cloud;" and when a beloved fellow-labourer inquired, "Is Christ now precious to your soul, my brother?" his reply was, "Precious! yes, precious!" These were the last words of a devoted servant of God, whose excessive exertion and toil brought on premature old age and hurried him to an early grave. He died in the forty-fifth year of his age and the twenty-first of his ministry.

William Sutcliffe.

Many Missionaries have gone forth at different times to foreign lands from Yorkshire. One of them was Mr. Sutcliffe, who in 1804 received an appointment to British North America. In the wilds of Nova Scotia, preaching the Gospel to the scat-

tered settlers, and in the islands of Bermuda he spent fourteen years, often enduring much hardship and privation ; but his ministry was made instrumental of good to many. Writing from the place last named, in January, 1818, he says : " When we made land, a pilot came on board ; and when the men who brought him were about to return with the boat to the shore, I heard the captain say, ' Tell the people, I have got a Methodist parson on board, who has come to save their souls from going to hell.' On my asking him what he was saying, he replied, ' I have told them the truth.' When we had come to anchor I began to feel a little uneasy, having no letter of introduction, and not knowing the name of any person in the colony. Before long, however, I was informed that a gentleman on the quarter-deck was inquiring for me. It was a kind friend to the Mission cause who took me on shore to his hospitable house, not far distant, and who made me welcome. When we arrived we went down upon our knees to praise God for His goodness manifested in our preservation, and implored His blessing on our future labours. It was a refreshing season. I preached in the little chapel in the evening, to a small congregation, consisting chiefly of black and coloured people. We have in Bermuda a few truly pious souls, three neat chapels, and a good Mission-house."

At length Mr. Sutcliffe returned to England with greatly impaired health and under circumstances of disadvantage. In 1825, he was made a Supernumerary ; and he resided nearly seven years in Manchester. When his condition of body and mind had improved somewhat, he was ever ready to do what he could to assist in the work of the Lord. As a Class Leader he diligently visited the sick, and, according to his ability, relieved the poor. It is further said of him that " he was very cautious not to speak evil of the absent." He generally expressed himself as enjoying the Divine favour, but as needing a greater degree of Divine love. The death of Mrs. Sutcliffe, under circumstances peculiarly trying, greatly affected him. He prayed that the Lord would support him, and added, " Thou hast promised, and I claim Thy promise." A disease similar to that of which his wife had died a few days before, seized himself. His suffering was great, but he endured it with patience and resignation to the will of God. He died on the 8th of April, 1833, in the sixty-first year of his age, and the twenty-ninth year of his ministry.

Titus Close,

"Soon after his conversion, in 1815, began to preach, with zeal and success, that glorious Gospel which had been made the power of God to his own salvation." In 1818 he received an appointment as a Missionary to Continental India, where he laboured for several years with acceptance and success. His communications to the Committee in London contain many interesting incidents, one of which we may give as illustrative of the character of his work and of the spirit in which it was done. Describing one of his Missionary journeys, he says: "From Bangalore I proceeded to Seringapatam. A few hours after my arrival, the Society of which I had heard came together. It consisted of a few non-commissioned British officers and about thirty country-born persons. I sang and prayed with them, and then made inquiry relative to their proceedings. Their universal cry was, 'Can you procure us a Missionary? We have applied in several quarters and can get no Minister.' The manner in which they expressed themselves, and the urgency with which they pleaded, affected me considerably; indeed, a perishing man could not have used stronger language in pleading for help, than they did in pleading for a Missionary. The next morning, having engaged to marry two couples, I went to the church earlier than the time appointed, viz., seven o'clock. I was induced to do this from hearing some natives singing there. On entering the church I was much surprised to find a decent-looking, country-born female engaged in performing Divine service to a native congregation, in Malabar; she read the prayers, and after the second lesson I married the persons who were waiting. After the service was concluded, she read the remaining part of the morning service, and then an extract from a Tamil tract. All this was done with great propriety. Her congregation consisted of twenty, all apparently very attentive. On inquiry I found that this female was the only person connected with the congregation who could read Malabar; and, under such circumstances, who could say, 'I suffer not a woman to read in the Church?' At ten I read prayers, preached, and administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to twenty-

four communicants. After preaching I baptized six adults and some children."

At length the failure of his health obliged Mr. Close to return to England. As soon as he was sufficiently recovered he entered the home work, and by his amiable, cheerful, and affectionate manner endeared himself to his brethren, and to the people of his charge, in every Circuit which he occupied. He was not long permitted to labour, however, his constitution having been seriously impaired by his foreign service. In his last illness he was graciously supported by that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ which he had delighted to preach to others. He died in peace at Croft, near Darlington, on Monday, the 10th of June, 1833, in the thirty-eighth year of his age.

Thomas Morgan.

Many pages might be filled with interesting particulars relating to the holy life and zealous labours of the Rev. Thomas Morgan; but want of space confines us to a bare outline of his useful Missionary career. He was a native of South Wales, and was early converted to God. Although constitutionally timid, and inclined to retirement, the love of Christ constrained him to enter the public ministry, in which he laboured with unwearied diligence for twenty-five years—seven in England, and eighteen among the enslaved sons and daughters of Africa in the West Indies. Useful as he was in the home work, his many excellencies shone forth with the brightest lustre in the Mission field. He was a man of strict integrity, and of upright conduct,—kind and affectionate as a colleague and Superintendent; and, as the Chairman of a District, he was remarkably efficient. He was moreover rigidly economical in his expenditure of public money. Indeed, it was in a great measure owing to his cordial co-operation with the Missionary Committee in their plans of economy, that they were enabled to enlarge their sphere of usefulness, and increase the number of labourers in that part of the Mission field.

Whilst much engaged in superintending and directing the labours of his junior brethren, and in managing the financial

affairs of the Society, Mr. Morgan was ever among the foremost in practical Missionary work. Nothing pleased him more than to be able to report the onward progress of the glorious enterprise in all its departments. Writing to the Committee, from St. Kitt's, in July, 1822, he says: "In the course of the last three months no less than two hundred persons have, after the most careful examination, been united to our Societies, many of whom, we doubt not, have their names written in heaven. And it is especially gratifying that the good work is general, each of our Stations having participated proportionally in the increase. We have lately instituted night schools, in which one hundred and fifty grown persons are weekly taught to read, and are catechized. Several of our scholars are sixty years of age, and yet their desire to learn to read is intense, and their diligence very great. A system of catechizing has likewise been recently adopted, for the benefit of those slave children who are unable to attend our regular Sunday Schools. Nearly four hundred of these are catechized on the Sabbath day, after the forenoon service."

After labouring faithfully and successfully in different islands of the West Indies for eighteen years, in 1830 Mr. Morgan found it necessary to return to England. Had his life been spared a little longer he would no doubt have rendered further valuable service to the Church of his choice at home or abroad; but he died suddenly on his way to Conference in the last week of July, 1833. Adverting to his sudden and unexpected removal his brethren say: "His work was finished, his soul was ripe for glory; and his memory will long be precious to his friends in England, and to the thousands of Negroes who were converted to God, or edified in the faith, by his ministry, in the West Indies."

Edward Grieves

Was a zealous young Minister, who, in 1828, received an appointment as a Missionary to the West Indies. His first Station was the island of Barbadoes, where his labours were blessed by the great Head of the Church to the spiritual good of many. In conjunction with his colleague he was also success-

ful in exciting an increased interest in the Mission cause. Writing from Bridge Town, in July, 1829, he gave the following account of the Missionary Anniversary which had just been held in that place: "I have the pleasure to state that I never attended a Missionary Meeting in England where more apparent feeling was produced, greater interest excited, deeper attention paid, or at which more pure and unaffected zeal was manifested by the speakers. Our chapel was crowded to excess, and vast numbers were obliged to go away, being unable to gain admission. Thus the number of our friends and patrons is increasing; their exertions are more vigorous; and prejudice is gradually dying away."

In 1830 Mr. Grieves removed to Demerara; and he laboured with acceptance and success both at George Town and at Mahaica. But the humid climate of British Guiana did not appear so well adapted for his type of constitution, and after a while his health seriously failed. For some time it was hoped that, with care and attention, he might rally and be spared for future usefulness; but the hopes of his friends were doomed to disappointment; for he died at Demerara, in the triumph of faith, on the 31st of July, 1833.

Isaac Bradnack

Was born on the 4th of August, 1774. When about twenty-three years of age he was awakened to a sense of his sin and danger under the powerful ministry of the Rev. Samuel Bradburn; and, having obtained redemption through the blood of Christ, even the forgiveness of his sins, he soon began to call sinners to repentance. At the Conference of 1801 he was appointed as a Missionary to the West Indies; and for several years he preached among the Negroes with much zeal and earnestness "the unsearchable riches of Christ." Nor did he labour in vain; for many of the people were by his instrumentality turned to righteousness, especially in Barbadoes and Jamaica. On his return to England, the hand of the Lord was still with him; and in some of the Circuits which he occupied, the seals of his ministry were numerous. His great and unremitting

exertions in the cause he loved so well at length brought on the complaint which led to his lamented death. Through a long and severe affliction he was enabled to "possess his soul in patience." He died in the Lord on Sunday, the 6th of October, 1833.

William M'Donald

Was of Scotch parentage. He commenced his brief but earnest career as a Missionary in Canada in 1829. After labouring there for some time, he was transferred to the Nova Scotia District. But he was not long permitted to exercise his ministry in that country. Long rough journeys and frequent exposure in all kinds of weather proved too much for him ; and he finished his course at Liverpool, Nova Scotia, on the 16th of March, 1834. "His piety was deep and uniform ; his talents were respectable ; and his ministrations were crowned with the Divine blessing. In his affliction he was greatly supported by the consolations and prospects of religion. His memory will long be cherished by his brethren in the ministry, and by a large circle of religious acquaintances in Nova Scotia and Canada."

William Buckley Fox

Was born at Saddleworth, in Yorkshire, on the 11th of June, 1787. In early life he was led to hear the preaching of the Wesleyan Methodists, and was awakened thereby to a sense of his lost state as a sinner, and induced to seek redemption through the blood of Christ. Soon after he had obtained a knowledge of salvation by the remission of sins, he began to call others to repentance. He was at length admitted to the full work of the Christian ministry, and after travelling six years in England, towards the close of 1816 he was sent out as a Missionary to Ceylon, where he arrived on the 25th of April, 1817. There he laboured diligently for eight years, occupying some of the most important Stations with credit to himself and

advantage to the cause in which he was engaged. His impressions of the state of the Ceylon Mission, which had been established a short time before by the companions of the lamented Dr. Coke, may be gathered from the following extract from his first letter to the Committee, written soon after his arrival : " When I view the great and firm establishment which under God has been founded by the persevering assiduity of the Missionaries, when I consider the successive events which have marked every step of the rising fabric, I know not which most to admire, the rigid conscientiousness, or the almost more than human prudence, which have been exercised ; but I remember that it is written, ' In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths.' They appear to have been directed in all things by the good providence of God. I cannot conclude this letter without telling you how happy I am to find myself in a Station where my heart has long been, and where I believe the providence of God has called me to labour. I believe He will bless my humble efforts to benefit my fellow-men."

In 1825 the failure of his health obliged Mr. Fox to return to England. When sufficiently recovered he entered the home work, and occupied various Circuits in different parts of the kingdom. He was highly esteemed and loved by his brethren and the people with whom he was associated, and his labours were owned of God to the spiritual good of many. He had a peculiar aptitude for the acquisition of languages, and had obtained some knowledge of as many as twenty. Consequently he often gave instructions to young Missionaries previous to their embarkation for India. At length his health and strength entirely failed, and he was obliged to relinquish a work which he dearly loved. His last affliction was characterized by perfect resignation to the will of God, by unshaken confidence in Christ, and by strong consolation in prospect of eternal life. He died at Tiverton, on the 9th of April, 1834, in the forty-sixth year of his age and the twenty-third of his ministry. His brethren bore the following honourable testimony to his intellectual and moral character : " He possessed strong intellectual powers which were highly cultivated. By diligent and persevering application he had acquired great stores of learning and science, all of which he brought to bear upon the work of the Christian ministry. He was an edifying Preacher, a diligent Pastor, and

a devoted Christian, and was highly respected and beloved by the people of his charge. He had a good report of all men and of the truth itself."

George Erskine

Was one of the young Missionaries who embarked for India with Dr. Coke in 1813. On landing in Ceylon, after the lamented death of the Doctor in the early part of the following year, he took his full share in the labour and responsibility which devolved upon the Mission party in their peculiar circumstances. His first Station was Matura, where he devoted himself with commendable zeal and diligence to the acquisition of the native languages, the organization of schools, and the preaching of the Gospel of Christ to all classes of the community to which he had access. After labouring for several years in India, his health failed, and he removed to New South Wales. As soon as he was able to do so, he entered heartily into the work of preaching to the settlers and convicts in Australia, adapting himself to his altered circumstances in a manner which showed that he was warmly interested in the cause of God in all its departments. He moreover manifested a lively interest in the welfare of the aborigines, and took steps to secure the appointment of an agent to live and labour among the scattered tribes inhabiting the neighbourhood of Wellington Valley. At length his health again failed, and he was afflicted in a manner which obliged him to retire as a Supernumerary. For some time before his death he endured much bodily suffering as well as mental depression. But his end was peace. He died at Sydney, on the 20th of April, 1834, in the fifty-third year of his age and the twenty-fifth of his ministry.

John Hick

Was sent out to British North America in 1815. His first Station was Prince Edward's Island, where he was soon able to report a Society of one hundred and twenty-four members, and where he secured the erection of a commodious new chapel.

Writing to the Committee in August, 1816, he says: "Since the erection of our chapel in Charlotte Town we have had a great accession of hearers, especially on Sabbath evenings. It was supposed by many, when we began to build, that our plan was too expensive for the size of the place: and, I must confess, it was my opinion that a chapel on a smaller scale would have been sufficient to contain the congregation: but when it was opened, such was the desire of the inhabitants to obtain pews, that I am convinced if we had built a smaller one we should have done wrong. We have in Charlotte Town a member in Society named Benjamin Chappell, who is mentioned with respect by Mr. Wesley in his Journals, and with whom he maintained a correspondence until he was taken to his exceeding great reward. He and his wife have been in this island nearly forty years. They both appear to be ripening fast for glory. I frequently get my soul blessed while conversing with them, and while hearing them tell of the wonders of redeeming love in the conversion of sinners in the infant days of Methodism. It is with satisfaction I inform you that there is throughout the Circuit a prospect of good being done; and I feel determined, while God continues to me health and strength, to labour with all my might in the promotion of the Redeemer's cause and interest."

Mr. Hick was ultimately transferred to Canada, where the remainder of his ministerial life was spent, in earnest, useful, and successful labour. His anxiety for the salvation of souls was such that he could not be satisfied without seeing the fruit of his hallowed toil. Writing from Stanstead, in October, 1822, he says: "I have at length the satisfaction to inform you, that the Lord has begun to pour out His Spirit upon this part of His vineyard, so that in the space of five weeks eight persons have been brought into the enjoyment of Christian liberty, and several others appear to be impressed with the conviction of the vast importance of serving God, and determined to seek Him while He may be found. For several months I laboured under very discouraging circumstances: the people were kind, the congregations good and apparently attentive; but, alas! religion, in its spirit and practice, was attended to but by few. However, since the day appointed by the District Meeting for fasting and special prayer for the revival of religion,





REV. S. WOOLLEY.

Missionary.

REV. S. WOOLLEY,

NEW YORK.

the case has been altered ; the few who did profess to know the Lord have been quickened,—the congregations have appeared to listen with different feelings,—and the result has been the ingathering of precious souls.”

The career of this devoted Minister of Christ was cut short suddenly. He was seized with malignant cholera, and after suffering severely for a few hours died in great peace, at Quebec, on the morning of August 2nd, 1834, in the forty-seventh year of his age and the twentieth of his ministry. Mr. Hick is described by those who knew him personally as “an amiable man, a genuine Christian, and a useful Minister of the Gospel.”

Samuel P. Woolley.

Whilst the Missionary enterprise in the West Indies was still in its infancy, and the ranks of the labourers were often thinned by sickness and death, a few, and only a few, of the devoted servants of Christ engaged in the work were spared to become acclimatized, and to devote a lengthened period of service in that interesting part of the Mission field. One of these was the Rev. S. P. Woolley, who went out in 1806, and who spent more than twenty-two years in the different islands, faithfully preaching the Gospel, superintending the erection of chapels, directing the labours of his junior brethren, and working in every possible way for the advancement of the noble cause in which he was engaged. As the judicious Chairman of a District, as the diligent Superintendent of the Circuits which he occupied, and as an affectionate and faithful Pastor, he was highly esteemed by his brethren and by the people of his charge. In Barbadoes and Trinidad more especially was his memory long and affectionately cherished by the people, as the writer can testify from what he heard many years afterwards from the lips of those who had been benefited by his ministry.

In 1832 Mr. Woolley returned to England, and at the Conference of the same year he was appointed as a Supernumerary to the Birmingham Circuit. As his strength permitted he rendered acceptable service to the Ministers stationed there, until his course was unexpectedly brought to a close. On the 8th of

September, 1834, he died of apoplexy, after a few hours' illness.

His remains were interred in the south-west corner of Aston churchyard, the precise spot being marked by a stone with the following inscription :

**"Sacred to the Memory of
THE REV. SAMUEL POOL WOOLLEY,**

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY FOR ABOUT TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS
IN THE WEST INDIES.

His prosecution of the Apostolic work
To which he was devoted,
Was enlightened, zealous, and indefatigable ;
And, by the blessing of God,
His labours resulted, in many instances,
In the overthrow of superstition
And the extension of the kingdom of Christ.
He was born in Birmingham, October 27th, 1781,
And died at Aston, September 8th, 1834,
In the fifty-third year of his age.

'And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.'—DANIEL XII. 3."

William Black.

Many pages might be filled with interesting details of the life and labours of the Rev. William Black, sometimes called "the Apostle of Nova Scotia ;" but we have space only for a brief outline of his long, useful, and honourable career. He was born at Huddersfield, Yorkshire, and left that place when about fifteen years of age, accompanying his parents to Nova Scotia. Soon after his arrival in that country in 1775, he was deeply convinced of sin, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit sought and found peace with God. In the newly settled country where his lot was cast there was an urgent demand for labourers, not only to minister to the few Methodists who were united in Christian fellowship, and with whom the new convert

gladly united himself, but also to make known the good news of salvation to lost sinners who had no one to care for their souls. Consequently Mr. Black had no sooner been brought into the glorious liberty of the children of God than he was constrained to exercise his gifts in prayer and exhortation in cottage meetings. In this way he was made very useful, but it soon became manifest that the Great Head of the Church designed him for more extended labours, for which he diligently prepared himself as he had opportunity.

In the year 1786 Mr. Black was set apart for the ministry. He had a constitution of more than ordinary strength, a sound and discriminating judgment, an earnest desire for useful knowledge, an enlightened zeal for the glory of God in the salvation of men. His career was marked by steady progress, incessant toil, and a pleasing measure of success. During the long period of half a century he bore the burden and heat of the day, faithfully preaching the Gospel of Christ among the scattered settlers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in the islands of Newfoundland and Prince Edward, and in some parts of the United States. For many years he filled the office of General Superintendent of Missions in British America, to which he was appointed on the recommendation of Dr. Coke; and the manner in which he discharged the duties of that office endeared him to his brethren and raised him in the estimation of the people. In the year 1800 Mr. Black paid a visit to England. This was a memorable incident in his history, as it afforded him an opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with some of the greatest and best men in British Methodism, and of forming friendships which lasted through life. It was on this occasion that the devoted Missionary first became acquainted with Dr. Bunting, who, on writing to him after his return to Nova Scotia, says: "I often recollect with pleasure the agreeable and profitable moments we spent together at Oldham and Manchester, during your visit to England, and am thankful to God that I ever knew you on earth, because I am persuaded that, through His abundant mercy in Christ Jesus, I shall hereafter know you in heaven. I was pleased and thankful some time ago, in a Lovefeast at Saddleworth, to hear the testimony of one who was awakened under a sermon you preached at Delph, on the Sunday you spent with me there, in April, 1800.

I mention this to show you that you have some seals to your ministry in this part of the world, and that your labours of love among us were not in vain in the Lord."

At length, in 1812, failure of health and the infirmities of advancing years obliged Mr. Black to retire as a Supernumerary ; but even then he was far from being inactive or useless. According to his ability he was ever ready to preach, meet Classes, and perform other pastoral duties ; and for several years he had the honour of watching over and watering the seed sown in his youthful vigour, which was springing up and producing a glorious harvest of precious souls soon to be gathered into the garner of the Lord. The peaceful death of this faithful labourer was in beautiful harmony with his laborious life. He finished his course in the full triumph of faith, on the 8th of September, 1834, in the seventieth year of his age. His last words were : " All is well ! All is well ! I shall soon be in that glory to which Christ has gone before me."

Josiah C. Nunn.

In the year 1834 the Society sent out to the West Indies eighteen additional Missionaries, with a view to afford increased means of religious instruction to the Negro slaves, that they might be the better prepared for their approaching emancipation. One of the number was the Rev. Josiah C. Nunn, a zealous young Minister who had spent a short time in an English Circuit, but who had been constrained to offer himself for the foreign work. He embarked early in January with several others who had received appointments to the Antigua District, but was detained by contrary winds at the Isle of Wight till the 8th of the following month. It was there that the present writer became personally acquainted with him ; and the delightful meetings held by the wind-bound Missionaries left upon his mind an impression never to be obliterated. The recollection is solemnized by the fact that only two now remain of the seven Missionaries who there met together, the rest having long since been called away by death.

Mr. Nunn was appointed to Dominica. His first sermon was preached on Sunday, March 30th, the subject being "the high-

way of holiness leading to heaven." He laboured chiefly among the poor oppressed Negroes, just emerging from their long night of bondage ; but his heart was drawn also towards his fellow-countrymen in the army ; and he preached frequently to companies of soldiers, with their families, then stationed at the barracks. When he arrived in the West Indies Mr. Nunn was shocked and grieved on witnessing the desecration of the Sabbath by the holding of the Sunday market, a practice then very common because the slaves had no other opportunity of coming to town. But this great and crying evil passed away with slavery. On the first Sunday in August Mr. Nunn wrote : "Glory be to God ! This day Sunday markets are no longer seen in the West India colonies. If the friends of the Negro had accomplished nothing more, they might have considered this worth their long and philanthropic struggle. Slavery in its most obnoxious forms has been swept away. Happy Britain ! thy fame in this respect shall go down to posterity. May the objects of thy benevolence learn how to prize the boon and give the glory to God."

In September, Mr. Nunn spent a short time at the out-Station of Lasoye, and while there he experienced a fearful hurricane, the house in which he resided being shaken to its foundation and the door torn from its hinges and blown to such a distance that no part of it was afterwards found. During the night the young Missionary and his fellow-sufferers were walking about as in a pool of water. Sabbath morning, September 21st, dawned on a scene of indescribable desolation, the chapel being entirely destroyed, and nothing to be seen where it stood but a heap of ruins. Mr. Nunn was fifty miles distant from his brethren ; but he determined to hasten to Roseau to confer with them on the damage which the Mission premises had sustained. The roads were absolutely impassable, and he was obliged to go by sea. When he reached the Bay of Prince Rupert, the tremendous swell and violence of the water rendered it impossible to land ; and he spent the fatal night in the open boat, wrapped in his cloak, lying on a box. In the morning the shore was gained : he hired another boat and proceeded to town. A scene of desolation everywhere met his view ; but he hoped no evil consequences would result to him from the exposure. In this, however, he was mistaken. In the course of a few days he was

seized with malignant fever, which baffled the skill of the physician and ended in death on the 29th of September, 1834. The last words he was heard to utter were, "My hope is full (O glorious hope !) of immortality."

Isaac Clarke

Was a young man of sincere piety and promising talents ; but he was of too delicate a constitution to endure the trying climate of Western Africa, the country for which he offered his services. He was sent out to Sierra Leone to fill a vacancy in November, 1833, and entered upon his work with a full determination to do all in his power to save the souls of his perishing fellow-men. After labouring, as health and strength would permit, for about twelve months, he gradually sank under the influence of his constitutional malady, rather than from the effects of African fever, although the progress of the disease might probably be accelerated by the heat of the climate. Mr. Clarke died happy in God, of pulmonary consumption, on the 4th of November, 1834, in the twenty-sixth year of his age and the second of his ministry.

Charles Penny

Was a young Minister who, after labouring acceptably two years at home, offered himself for the foreign work. In 1830 he received an appointment to the Bahamas. He devoted himself to his important duties with becoming zeal and diligence ; but he had many difficulties to contend with during the four years that he spent in those islands. He had not been there many months when he and his wife were exposed to one of those dreadful hurricanes which are so common in those regions. A few sentences from a long and interesting account which he gave of this disaster, in a letter to the Committee, will show what the Missionaries have sometimes to endure. Writing from Wreck Sound, he says : " This awful visitation took place on Saturday, the 14th of August, 1830. At five o'clock in the morning the wind, rain, and thunder were fearfully heavy, and

continued with occasional intermission till about one P.M., when there was a calm for a short time, which was immediately followed by a terrific increase of the gale. Four vessels were in a short time thrown with tremendous violence on the rocks. About half-past five the gale was at its height; at which time a most dismal darkness enveloped the earth, which shook under our feet. Nothing but piercing cries and shrieks of men, women, and children, and the horrible roar of the wind and water could be heard. The Mission-house being supposed to be the strongest and most secure was open to all who sought an asylum. I and my wife gave every assistance in our power to those whose frail dwellings had been destroyed. At length the water from the sea broke in upon us, and our house was in danger of being carried away. I desired all to kneel down in humble penitence of soul before God, and we exclaimed, 'Save, Lord, or we perish!' I believe, if ever the people prayed and cried with strong cries and tears, it was then. The Lord heard and answered. Our house and chapel were left standing, though much injured. There is fearful desolation in almost every island. A large vessel off Eleuthera, from France, was wrecked; when all on board, with the exception of one man, met with a watery grave. The bodies of not less than seven female passengers were found washed up on the rocks."

Mr. Penny appears to have had great fitness for the work in which he was engaged. He was especially distinguished by calmness, firmness, fortitude, and benevolence. Hence he was esteemed and loved by his brethren in the ministry and the people among whom he laboured. But his bodily strength was scarcely adequate to the rough work he had to do, in preaching incessantly and visiting the out-Stations in small open boats exposed to the elements in all weathers. Consequently his health at length gave way, and he was obliged to relinquish the work which he loved so well. In his last illness he gave to those who attended him the most satisfactory evidence that he enjoyed the gracious aids and consolations of that Gospel which he had faithfully preached to others. Some of his last words were, "Christ is a very present help in this my time of trouble. All is well!" He finished his course with joy at Harbour Island, on the 24th of November, 1834, in the thirty-seventh year of his age and the seventh of his ministry.

Joseph Talbot

Was another zealous and devoted Missionary to the West Indies who soon finished his course. He was appointed to the Bahamas in 1831, and laboured there until his last illness. He is described by those who knew him personally as "a truly devoted Christian, a warm and affectionate friend, and a zealous and faithful Minister." His constant aim was the salvation of the people among whom he laboured. Writing from New Providence in November, 1832, after giving an interesting account of a visit which he had made to several of the smaller islands, he says: "As respects the work of God in this Circuit, although it is not in so good a state as we could wish, yet we have cause to be thankful. During the last six months we have admitted upwards of one hundred new members to the Society; but we want to see the people continually labouring for the salvation of their fellow-creatures, as well as their own. We held a Lovefeast last month at the east. Some of our friends came from the west and the chapel was pretty full. The experience of those that spoke was clear, rational, and Scriptural. They could testify that the Gospel had proved the power of God to the salvation of their souls. The experience of our coloured people is equal to that of the generality of our English Societies; so that our labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Whilst Mr. Talbot was thus labouring happily and successfully among a people to whom he was devotedly attached, his work was suddenly cut short by an attack of illness which no medical skill could control. He died in peace at Rock Sound, Eleuthera, on the 27th of December, 1834, in the thirtieth year of his age, and the fourth of his ministry. The last words he was heard to utter were, "Lord, save sinners."

Valentine Ward.

Whether we consider his high ministerial character in general, or the zeal and earnestness with which he threw himself into the Missionary enterprise at a time of life when many would

have thought of indulging in comparative repose, we cannot but regard the Rev. Valentine Ward as a very remarkable man. There were moreover some features in his career of more than ordinary interest. He was born in the parish of Madeley, the scene of the apostolic Fletcher's useful labours, on the 4th of January, 1781. His father dying when he was only twelve years of age, his early education was neglected, and he became a prey to temptation and a companion of them that "forget God." When he was about nineteen it pleased the Lord to convince him of sin, under a sermon preached by the Rev. Samuel Taylor ; and from that time he abandoned his wicked companions, changed his course of life, and sought salvation in all the means of grace. In the month of July, 1799, he approached the Lord's table for the first time ; and while receiving the memorials of the Saviour's dying love, he was enabled to believe with his heart unto righteousness. Constrained by the love of Christ, he soon began to call sinners to repentance. The great Head of the Church crowned his first essays with success ; and in 1801 he was received as a probationer for the Christian ministry. From this time his activity in his Master's service was unwearied, and his fortitude in seasons of suffering and difficulty excited the admiration of all. His preaching was plain, perspicuous, instructive, forcible, affectionate and fervent ; and in every Circuit in which he was appointed to labour God blessed him, and made him a blessing. He was constitutionally sanguine, and in his endeavours to benefit others was sometimes in danger of injuring himself. Some of his Chapel-building schemes proved unsuccessful, and perhaps indicated a want of prudence on his part ; but no one would impugn his motives, which were undoubtedly pure and upright.

The cause of Missions had a warm place in the heart of Mr. Ward, and for many years commanded his powerful advocacy. He regarded the emancipation of the Negro slaves not only as an act of justice, but as a measure intimately connected with their social, moral and spiritual welfare. When a Minister of standing and experience was required to go to the West Indies to take the general oversight of the Wesleyan Missions, at a very critical period of their history, he nobly volunteered his services. He accordingly embarked for Jamaica in 1834 ; but he was only just permitted to see with his own eyes the wonders that God had wrought and to rejoice over the triumphs of the

Gospel before the Master called him to his reward. The last Sabbath of his life was spent in preaching to Negro congregations; the power of God was present to wound and to heal; and on retiring to rest at night he said, "This has been one of the happiest Sabbaths of my life." He was suddenly smitten down with fever, and died in peace at Montego Bay, on the 26th of March, 1835, in the fifty-fifth year of his age and the thirty-fourth of his ministry.

Charles Wilcox

Was a native of Bristol; where in early life he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth and began to exercise his gifts for the benefit of others. For some time he laboured as a Local Preacher. Having been accepted by the Conference as a candidate for Mission work, he was sent to the West Indies in 1831. During the time that he was permitted to spend in Jamaica he gave evidence of fitness for the holy enterprise in which he had engaged. His integrity, zeal, and general conduct secured for him the esteem of his brethren and the affection of the people. His friends and the Society anticipated for him a long and useful career; but Divine Providence ordered otherwise. He was drowned while bathing at Clarendon on the 16th of May, 1835.

William Wood

Was born in Cheshire. An early conversion led to efforts for the benefit of his fellow-men. In 1828 he was appointed to the West Indies. His first Station was Stoney Hill, in Jamaica, where he commenced his labours in a manner which gave good hope of success. He is described as a young man of inoffensive manner, and of undoubted habitual piety. Love to his brethren, humbleness of mind, and zeal for God, were his leading characteristics. His ministerial abilities were creditable and promising. In the prosperity of the work generally, and in the temporal and eternal welfare of the Negro population

especially, he manifested the deepest interest. For their salvation he appeared to think and live.

In common with several other devoted Missionaries Mr. Wood lived and laboured in Jamaica in troublous times ; but in the midst of opposition and insult he showed great prudence and firmness, and never suffered himself to violate the spirit of the Gospel. The peculiarity of his position may be inferred from the tone of his communications to the Committee. A sentence or two will serve as an illustration. Writing from Kingston on the 4th of July, 1832, he says : " The greatest outrages on our religious rights, as Christians and Britons, are still committed in this colony. Laws are set at defiance, truth is fallen in the streets, and justice seems to have fled from our shores. It is scarcely possible for you to imagine how distressing the state of things is at present ; and when and in what it will end, is hard to conjecture. Those individuals who destroyed our chapel at St. Ann's are still at large ; for although they performed most of their work in open daylight, and persons standing by saw them thus engaged, and made affidavits which were duly placed in the Crown office, yet the Grand Jury ignored all the bills ! Neither Mission property nor Missionaries' lives are safe in Jamaica, humanly speaking, except so far as they are secured by the influence and interference of the free coloured and black population."

Amid these and other difficulties the devoted Missionary toiled on, sustained by the consolations of the Gospel, being instant in season and out of season in his efforts to save precious souls, and hoping for better days. Better days were not for him in this world ; but God in His kind providence called the weary labourer home to Himself. He was smitten down with fever, and after enduring much pain for a few days, was released from his sufferings, and entered into the joy of his Lord, on the 24th of May, 1835.

James Corbett

Was another of the eighteen additional Missionaries appointed to the West Indies in 1833, who soon finished his course. He was a young man of amiable disposition and promising talents.

In Jamaica he laboured diligently, and soon endeared himself to his brethren in the ministry, and to the people of his charge. He had been in the island only about fifteen months, however, when he was called from the field of toil to the rest of heaven. He died in peace, at Spanish Town, on the 26th of May, 1835.

Joseph R. Dunwell

Was the first Wesleyan Missionary sent out to Cape Coast, in Western Africa, and he was appointed under circumstances which appeared to be peculiarly providential. A few native youths had learned to read the Bible at the Government school at that place, and their minds had become so deeply interested in the sacred volume that they had formed themselves into a kind of little society for its more careful study. As their supply of the precious book was very limited they agreed to send to England for a few copies of the New Testament. They made their case known to Captain Potter, the pious master of a merchant vessel from Bristol. The heart of that noble-minded man became so interested in behalf of these African youths, that on his return home he not only procured for them an ample supply of the Scriptures, but also called at the Wesleyan Mission House in London, and generously offered to take out a Missionary to Cape Coast, free of cost to the Society. The opening seemed so promising, and the call so distinct, that the offer was accepted, and Mr. Dunwell, a young Minister of deep piety, of amiable manners, and apparently of great fitness for the work, was selected for this new enterprise. He embarked with Captain Potter in the autumn of 1834, and on the 2nd of January in the following year, after calling at several places on his way, landed in safety at Cape Coast Castle, much pleased with the appearance of the place and of the people, and full of hopes of success. Never did a servant of God commence his work with purer motives or with a larger measure of true Christian zeal for the Divine glory and the salvation of men. His first efforts were crowned with success. He had not been quite six months in the country, however, when he was smitten down with malignant fever, which proved fatal in the course of a few

days. He died in great peace on the 24th of June, 1835, in the twenty-ninth year of his age and the second of his ministry.

It must not be supposed that Missionaries thus suddenly removed felt any regret at the steps they had taken, when they found the last messenger at hand. The very reverse of this has generally been the case. In a letter addressed to a friend, which was found in his room after his decease, Mr. Dunwell expressed his readiness to lay down his life in Africa, and remarked that it grieved him most of all that his utmost exertions were so inadequate to meet the spiritual wants of the multitude to which he had access. His last entries in his journal show that he was divinely supported in the prospect of death. On the 14th of June, after observing that he had been attacked that day with the "seasoning" fever which often proves fatal, he wrote, "I cannot describe the peace of mind which I feel. I am a most worthless sinner, and have no hope, no plea, but, 'Jesus died for me.'" On the following day he added, "I passed an exceedingly restless night, having great pain of body. Yet, O the composure of my mind! I believe I can say, 'In life or in death I am the Lord's.'"

John Price

Was a warm-hearted and zealous young Welsh Minister, who received an appointment to the West Indies in 1834. We had the pleasure of his acquaintance before his embarkation, and were convinced of his fitness for the work to which he was designated. On his arrival in the Bahamas he entered on his duties in an encouraging manner. But he was permitted to labour but a short time. He died of fever at Nassau, New Providence, on the 10th of July, 1835. During the whole of his last illness, he was very happy in God, and free from the fear of death. He said on one occasion, with considerable emphasis, "I do not know what my heavenly Father is about to do with me; but I do not feel the smallest alarm or anxiety. 'To me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.'" And a short time before he expired, he said, "O happy! happy! happy! though I die, I shall live."

John Walters

Was a native of South Wales, and in early life was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth. In 1830 he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and received an appointment to the island of Jamaica. He reached his destination in the month of January, 1831. During the comparatively short period of his foreign labours he became much endeared to his brethren in the ministry and the people of his charge, and it is believed that his ministrations were the means of spiritual good to many. We have a very pleasant recollection of his cheerful countenance, and of his affable and winning manners. Love to his brethren, compassionate regard for the poor, diligence in visiting the sick, and fervent zeal for the glory of God, were his leading characteristics. Whilst pursuing his duties with his wonted diligence, he was attacked by fever, and, after an illness of a few days, sank beneath the crushing weight of his disease. He was graciously supported as he saw his end approaching; his confidence in God was unshaken; he was filled with holy triumph; and at length he passed away to his rest on the 11th of July, 1835. From the commencement of his last illness he spoke of little but death, and his last words were :

“ Then ask the monster, Where’s thy sting ?
And where’s thy victory, boasting Grave ? ”

Daniel Barr

Was another excellent Missionary who fell a sacrifice to the trying climate of the West Indies, during a year of general sickness and great mortality. His brief career was not marked by incidents of extraordinary interest; but his character and labours were worthy of special commendation. In accordance with his own preference he was sent as a Missionary to the island of Jamaica. He reached his destination early in the year 1831. In the respective Circuits in which he laboured he was highly esteemed, and his preaching was made a blessing to many. He died in peace at Morant Bay, October 17th, 1835. We have

a pleasant recollection of Mr. Barr as a steady, judicious, grave, and trustworthy friend and brother ; and in bearing their testimony to his general character and worth, his brethren say : " As a man and a Christian he was affectionate, upright, and consistent ; and as a Preacher he was zealous and faithful."

Edmund Gordon

Was one of the eighteen additional Missionaries sent out to the West Indies in 1833, with a view to prepare the Negro slaves for their approaching emancipation. We have a vivid and pleasant recollection of him and his truly devoted and heroic wife, together with whom we were detained at the Isle of Wight by contrary winds. It is recorded of Mr. Gordon that " he was a Missionary of great promise. His piety was deep ; his zeal was ardent, and prompted him to such diligence in his sacred calling as is not often surpassed." His foreign labours were begun in St. Kitt's in the early part of 1834, and there they were terminated in the comparatively short period of twenty-one months. But brief as was his period of service, it was far from being fruitless. His ministrations were owned of God to the spiritual good of many, and he was greatly beloved by the people of his charge for his affectionate pastoral superintendence and care. Whilst busily engaged in his hallowed work and forming plans of future usefulness, he was attacked with malignant fever, which, in the course of six days, terminated fatally. He died in great peace on the 23rd of December, 1835, in the twenty-ninth year of his age and the second of his ministry.

John Briddon

Is said to have obtained mercy through faith in Christ and to have joined himself to the Wesleyan Methodist Society at an early age. Having been for some time usefully employed as a Local Preacher in his native place, he in 1824 received an appointment as a Missionary to the West Indies. His first Station was Kingstown, St. Vincent's, where he soon won the esteem and affection of his colleagues and the people among whom he

laboured. As a Minister of Christ he was a "workman that needed not to be ashamed," being fond of books and study, and diligently preparing for the pulpit, whilst at the same time he was careful not to neglect his pastoral duties. In these respects he was an example to his brethren; and by his influence and counsel he stimulated to effort some who might have been induced to relax their mental exertions in a climate unfavourable to close application to study. After labouring in the West Indies for ten years with great usefulness, Mr. Briddon returned to England with his health greatly impaired. For some time it was hoped that he would rally when favoured with a more temperate climate, and surrounded by kind friends; but his strength continued to decline. He was graciously supported through a long and trying affliction; and when near his end he said, "Welcome, death! Come, Lord Jesus." He died in peace on the 20th of January, 1836, in the thirty-fifth year of his age and the twelfth of his ministry.

Thomas H. Osborne

Was another of the eighteen additional Missionaries sent to the West Indies in 1833, and also one whose career of foreign service was soon terminated. In the days of his youth he devoted himself to the service of God; and, having given proof that the great Head of the Church had called him to preach the Gospel, he received an appointment to the Antigua District, as already intimated, where he arrived in safety, and commenced his labours in the early part of the year 1834. By his amiable temper, unaffected piety, and ardent zeal for the salvation of souls, he soon won the esteem of his brethren and the affection of the people over whom he was placed in the Lord. Nor did he labour in vain. It is believed that he was instrumental in winning many souls for Christ during the brief period of his ministry. When he had been about two years engaged in the work, he was unexpectedly called to rest from his labours. His death was very sudden; but he was found prepared for the solemn event. He arrived in St. Kitt's to attend the Annual District Meeting, apparently in good health; but on the evening of the second day of its sittings he was attacked by fever of

a very virulent type, which in less than thirty hours ended his valuable life. He died on the 10th of February, 1836, in the twentieth-fourth year of his age and the third of his ministry.

Thomas Crosthwaite.

It is recorded of him that he obtained a knowledge of salvation by the remission of sins, through faith in Christ, in early life; and that he soon afterwards began deeply to feel on account of the perishing state of sinners. His sympathies were drawn out especially on behalf of those who lived in distant lands and who were destitute of the means of religious instruction. He consequently offered himself as a Missionary, and having been accepted by the Wesleyan Conference, in 1830, he received an appointment to British North America. He laboured for two or three years in Nova Scotia with much zeal and earnestness, and with a pleasing measure of success. At length his health failed, and he was for a time quite unable to perform his duties. He appears to have been weak in the chest, and the cold, bleak climate of North America, and the long and fatiguing journeys which he had to take, proved too much for him. For the benefit of his health, in 1834, he was transferred to the West Indies, and was stationed in the island of Grenada, where for some time he laboured very earnestly, as his strength would permit. But it soon became evident to every one but himself, and to his wife among the rest, that the insidious disease was making rapid progress. Towards the close of 1835 he removed to Barbadoes, but without any permanent benefit to his health. When the Missionaries of the St. Vincent's District assembled in Bridge Town, at their Annual Meeting, a few months afterwards, they found Mr. Crosthwaite rapidly sinking; but he was prepared for his approaching change. We have a touching recollection of pleasant and profitable visits paid to him during his last illness, when we always saw him trusting in the merits of Christ, and rejoicing in hope of the glory of God. He died of consumption, in great peace, on the 1st of May, 1836, in the thirty-first year of his age and the sixth of his ministry. He was interred on the following day in the James Street chapel burial-ground, all the Ministers of the District

attending his funeral. Two weeks afterwards his infant daughter died, and was buried in the same grave, and the lonely mother and widow returned to England, bereaved of all that she held dear on earth, but graciously supported by her heavenly Father.

Alfred Bourne

Commenced his career as a Wesleyan Minister in 1823, and, in 1826, offered himself as a Missionary. He was accordingly appointed to a Station in Continental India. He addressed himself to his important duties in a manner at once creditable to himself, and advantageous to the cause in which he had embarked ; studying the languages of the people among whom his lot was cast, establishing schools, and preaching the Gospel as he had opportunity. In the Madras and Negapatam Circuits he spent about eight years. He was distinguished by uniform and exemplary piety, by an earnest devotion to evangelical and pastoral labours, and by great usefulness. Under the pressure of his exhausting labours and the trying character of the climate, his health became seriously impaired. Yet from the necessities of the work, and his ardent attachment to it, he continued at his post for years after he had been advised to seek a change, often labouring under severe pain. At length, when he could no longer perform the duties of his office, he submitted to the necessity of the case, and sought repose, but, alas ! it was too late. He returned to England in June, 1835. For a while the hope of his recovery was cherished by his friends ; but ere long the malady from which he suffered assumed a more alarming form, and on the 27th of May, 1836, he meekly resigned his spirit to God, in full dependence on the atoning sacrifice of Christ, and in sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection to eternal life. He died in the thirty-seventh year of his age and the thirteenth of his ministry.

James Sharracks

Is characterized by those who knew him personally as a young Minister of "deep piety, and of superior talents, which he had

cultivated with diligence ; and in whom ardent zeal was tempered with a prudence not usual at his years." After labouring at home with much acceptance for two years, he in 1834 offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and received an appointment to the West Indies. He reached his first Station, which was Turk's Island, one of the Bahamas, in February, 1835, and entered upon his work in the true spirit of a Christian Evangelist. His short career yielded beneficial results to the people among whom he laboured. His pulpit ministrations were accompanied with heavenly unction, and many were brought to a saving knowledge of the truth, and added to the Church, through his instrumentality. While he lived he was "a burning and a shining light," and many "rejoiced in his light." Nor was his sudden death without a sanctifying influence upon the people, proving the truth of the great and good Richard Watson's words : "A good Missionary can neither live nor die in vain." Mr. Sharracks died of yellow fever, after a few days' illness, on the 15th of July, 1836. When first attacked with the disease he did not seem to think his sickness would be unto death ; but, as his end approached, he was fully conscious of the solemn reality, and his last words were : "Yonder world ! yonder world ! yonder world !" and so he passed away to be for ever with the Lord.

Thomas Osborne.

It is said of him that "in early life he was deeply convinced of sin," and that "he sought and found peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." His eagerness to rescue sinners from the service of Satan, and his general qualifications for the ministry, soon attracted attention ; and in due time all the duties and responsibilities of the sacred office were laid upon him. Deeply as he felt for those who were living without God in his own country, his sympathies were drawn out more towards those who were involved in midnight darkness in heathen lands. He consequently offered himself as a Missionary, and in 1816 received an appointment to the island of Ceylon. The Mission had been commenced only about two years before, by the devoted companions of the lamented Dr. Coke ; and Mr.

Osborne threw himself into the work, in all its departments, with much energy and zeal, studying the native languages, establishing schools and preaching the Gospel to all to whom he had access. He had laboured in different Stations for seven years, and had seen some fruit of his toil especially among the English residents and the descendants of the Portuguese, when his health failed and he was obliged to return to England.

Being a man of various knowledge and very acceptable pulpit talents, of amiable temper and sincere and fervent piety, Mr. Osborne would no doubt have occupied a prominent and important position in the home work, had his health been fully restored ; but it had received such a shock by his residence and labours in India, that he continued comparatively feeble as long as he lived. He was ever ready, however, according to his strength to take a part in the work of the Lord till the time came when he was entirely laid aside from active service. In the spring of 1834 his fatal illness came upon him. When on his way to conduct Divine service at St. Philip's chapel, Bristol, he was attacked with paralysis. Under this distressing malady he lingered more than two years ; during which time he was resigned and even cheerful, not a murmur escaping his lips. A little before his death, he said, "I shall go down to the grave with a smile, and ascend with a shout." He died on the 30th of October, 1836, in the forty-seventh year of his age and the twenty-second of his ministry.

Peter Harrop

Was a native of Hadfield in the Glossop Circuit. He is described by his surviving brethren as "a young man of considerable native energy, and promise of usefulness." At the Conference of 1836 he received an appointment to Western Africa, and sailed for Cape Coast on the 17th of November. Owing to an unusually long passage, he did not reach his destination till the middle of the following January. He arrived at a very unhealthy season of the year ; and by undue exposure in his anxiety to be useful, he brought on a premature attack of

the seasoning fever, which baffled medical skill and ended fatally a few weeks after he landed. For some time after the commencement of the attack he had no apprehension that it would be "unto death;" but as his end approached he was not only resigned to the will of God, but, when conscious, was enabled to rejoice in prospect of heaven. Many of his last hours were employed in giving utterance to the feelings of his heart, which overflowed with gratitude to God for His goodness and mercy, of which he had a clear and lively apprehension. He died on the 8th of February, 1837, in the thirtieth year of his age and the second of his ministry, a few minutes after Mrs. Wrigley, the wife of one of his colleagues, had passed away to her reward in heaven.

Edward Maer

Was appointed to Western Africa under circumstances which were peculiar and affecting. Having offered himself for the foreign work, he was summoned to London in October, 1831, to undergo the usual examination. When asked whether he had a preference for any particular part of the world, he replied, with deep feeling, that, notwithstanding its unhealthy climate, Western Africa had been laid upon his heart, and that he felt a strong desire to be sent there. He was accordingly appointed to Sierra Leone, where he arrived in the latter part of 1832. He addressed himself to his arduous duties with zeal and diligence; and continued to labour, with comparatively few interruptions from sickness and with a pleasing measure of success, for four years. At the end of that period, finding that the climate had made a serious impression upon his constitution, he made arrangements to visit England with the hope of returning to the coast with renewed health and vigour, and of prosecuting his labours among the sable children of Ham for years to come. But, alas! this hope was not to be realized. He embarked for his native land in a state of great exhaustion through repeated attacks of fever, and instead of rallying, as was anticipated, when he got to sea he became weaker and weaker, until, six days after the vessel left the port of Free Town, he exchanged mortality for life. He died in great peace on the morning of the 27th of

March, 1837, and his remains were consigned to the great deep till that day when "the sea shall give up the dead that are in it."

Benjamin Crosby

Was another devoted young Missionary who fell a sacrifice to the climate of Western Africa at an early period of the Mission. His history presents some points of special interest. He was born at Beckingham, in the Newark Circuit, in the year 1807, and lived for some time during his youth in the employ of the late Daniel Webb, Esq., of that place. When about twenty-two years of age, he was awakened under the ministry of the Rev. John Smith, at Bassingham, to a sense of his lost condition as a sinner; and soon afterwards at a prayer-meeting he found peace with God. He subsequently removed to Auburn, near Lincoln, where he began to preach with an earnestness and a power that clearly indicated his fitness for a wider sphere of usefulness. About this time he was received into the employ and became an inmate in the family of Mr. Thomas Bainbridge, of Lincoln, where he enjoyed special religious and intellectual advantages. The education of young Crosby had been neglected in early life; but under the kind care and with the assistance of Mr. Bainbridge he made considerable progress in mental improvement, being stimulated by the conviction that God had a work for him to do in His vineyard.

Having acted for some time as a Local Preacher, Mr. Crosby offered himself in 1834 as a Missionary to the heathen, and, according to his own wish, received an appointment to Western Africa. From the time of his arrival in Sierra Leone all the energies of his body and mind were thrown into the great work of saving souls from sin and death. His spirit was stirred within him when he saw the people in various parts of the colony wholly given to idolatry. The fervour of his zeal was manifest in the excessive labours which he undertook in travelling, preaching, and visiting from house to house to an extent which in that climate could scarcely fail to be injurious to his health. In a communication which he addressed to the Missionary Committee, a short time before his death, he gave some

interesting extracts from his journal, that they might "learn how he spent his time, and also see the necessity of sending men to Sierra Leone who both can and will labour for the salvation of immortal souls; men who will 'scorn their feeble flesh to spare,' and not even count their lives dear unto them for the name of Jesus." In this spirit Mr. Crosby was pursuing his beloved work when the Master called him to rest from his labours. He was attacked by a violent fever then epidemic in the colony, and in the course of a few days was numbered with the dead. Although the summons was sudden, he was found prepared, and he died in peace at Free Town, on the 24th of April, 1837, in the twenty-ninth year of his age and the third of his Missionary labours, deeply regretted by many who had proved his ministry to be "the savour of life unto life."

James Patterson

Was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth at Lynn, in Norfolk, in 1830; and from the time of his conversion he felt an ardent desire to make known the blessings of salvation to the benighted heathen. For some time, however, the way did not seem to open for the accomplishment of his wishes, and his efforts were confined to the spiritual welfare of his own countrymen. For six years he laboured as a Local Preacher in the Lynn and Great Queen Street Circuits, with acceptance and success; but his interest in the Mission work continued as earnest as ever. At length he was received as a candidate for the ministry; and at the Conference of 1836, in accordance with his own desire, he was appointed as a Missionary to Sierra Leone, where he arrived on the 10th of October following. He entered upon his work with vigour and hope, but his course was soon run. After labouring for about six months, he was suddenly cut down by yellow fever. He died in peace after an illness of six days, on the 21st of May, 1837, in the twenty-fifth year of his age and the second of his ministry. During his short illness Mr. Patterson's mind was kept in peace, and he was completely saved from the fear of death. When he had lost the power of speech, he was asked to raise his hand if he experi-

enced a foretaste of heaven. Immediately he lifted up his hands, and without a struggle or a groan passed away to be forever with the Lord.

Joshua Marsden

Had a career which presents incidents of more than ordinary interest. He was born at Warrington in the year 1777 ; and, although he was favoured with the instructions, example, and prayers of a pious mother, his youthful days were characterized by forgetfulness of that truth in a knowledge of which he had been carefully trained from infancy. At length a mother's fervent prayers prevailed on behalf of her wild, wayward son, and whilst he was casually attending a Methodist chapel in Manchester, perhaps in deference to his mother's wish, the word preached was brought home to his heart by the Holy Spirit with convincing power. He sought and found mercy ; and, having become " a new creature in Christ Jesus," he henceforth devoted all his energies of body and mind to the service of God. After passing through the usual gradations of preliminary study and service, and believing that he was called by God to the work, he offered himself and was accepted by the Conference as a Missionary to British North America.

Mr. Marsden sailed from Liverpool for Nova Scotia in company with the Rev. Messrs. Black, Lowry, Bennet and Oliphant, on the 24th of August, 1800. The voyage across the Atlantic was attended by some touching incidents. The " Snow Sparrow," in which the Missionaries sailed, was chased by a French privateer, and narrowly escaped being taken ; a melancholy case of death occurred among the passengers ; and other circumstances took place of minor importance which the young Missionary chronicled in his journal with feelings of gratitude to God for His preserving goodness. At length, after tossing on the mighty deep for six weeks, the Mission party reached Halifax, Nova Scotia, and after resting for a few days Mr. Marsden set off for Windsor, on his route to the Westmoreland Mission, at the head of the Bay of Fundy, which was to be the first scene of his *foreign labours*. At this place, and on other Stations in *British America*, Mr. Marsden " endured hardness as a good soldier of

Jesus Christ," being much exposed in his Missionary journeys among the scattered settlers, and having frequent and narrow escapes from danger and from death. In the midst of his toils and privations he was encouraged by manifest tokens of the presence and blessing of God, and by evident proofs that his labour was not in vain in the Lord. After spending about seven years in Nova Scotia, he was appointed to Bermuda, to attempt the re-establishment of the Wesleyan Mission, which had been relinquished some time before under circumstances of severe trial and persecution. He reached his new sphere of labour at the beginning of May, 1808. By the blessing of God he succeeded in his enterprise beyond his most sanguine expectation. He erected a commodious chapel, formed Societies, established schools, and laid the foundation of a work which has continued to advance and prosper up to the present time. When he had laboured in Bermuda for about six years the failure of his health rendered a change necessary, and Mr. Marsden returned to England by way of New York, where he was detained for some time in consequence of the war which then prevailed.

On reaching his native land in the autumn of 1814, and finding his health considerably improved, Mr. Marsden entered the home work, and for several years occupied important Circuits in England with credit to himself and advantage to the Church. He, moreover, frequently pleaded the cause of Missions, published an interesting narrative of his labours and travels, as well as sundry pieces of verse, and strove in various ways to serve his generation by the will of God. Thus he continued until 1836, when, worn out by incessant toil and affliction, he retired as a Supernumerary in London. Here he occasionally preached as strength permitted. At length his mental and physical powers entirely failed, and on the 11th of August, 1837, he entered the rest which remaineth for the people of God, in the sixtieth year of his age and the thirty-eighth of his ministry.

Henry Wilkinson

Was the next Missionary who fell a sacrifice to yellow fever in Western Africa, in a year of general sickness and great mortality. He is spoken of by his brethren as "an amiable, kind, faithful

and affectionate friend ; a sincere, pious and upright Christian ; and a prudent, thoughtful, diligent, zealous and devoted Minister of Christ." He was appointed to St. Mary's, on the River Gambia, at the Conference of 1834. He reached his destination early in the following year. and, aided by his devoted wife, he commenced his work with a faith and an earnestness which could scarcely fail of success. He had laboured for two years and six months with great pleasure and profit to himself, and much benefit to others. when he was smitten down with the fatal epidemic which was then so prevalent on the coast. When the summons came the faithful servant of God was found at his post of duty, and earnestly pursuing his beloved work. In the last letter he wrote to the Missionary Committee he said : "As it regards the work of God with us, our congregations continue very good, and the Societies and schools are in a prosperous state. I do not mean to say we have no discouragements, for it often becomes our painful duty to exercise discipline, and expel disorderly persons from Society. However, blessed be God ! the members are generally alive to God, and are ornaments to our holy religion. We have several promising young men, four of whom I have lately put upon the plan as Exhorters. I am truly sorry to state that the epidemic is still making serious ravages on this island. Sickness and death are marching around us in their ghastly forms. Such is the nature of the disease that it baffles the power of medicine and medical skill. Nearly the whole of the persons arrested by it have fallen victims. Such a season as this has not been experienced for many years in this part of Africa."

On the following Sabbath, two days after his last letter was written, Mr. Wilkinson preached from the impressive text, "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom," and gave out the hymn beginning with the following solemn lines :

" And must this body die ?
This well-wrought frame decay ?
And must these active limbs of mine
Lie mouldering in the clay ? "

He was then in his usual health ; but, next day, after visiting the sick and officiating at two funerals, he was attacked with the fell disease, which ran its rapid course in three days ; and on

Thursday evening, the 24th of August, 1837, without a struggle or a groan he breathed his spirit into the hands of his faithful Creator. He died in the twenty-eighth year of his age and the third of his ministry ; and his remains were interred in the new chapel near to the pulpit in which he had officiated on the previous Sabbath. So uncertain is life in Western Africa !

James Darwin Jackson

Was born at Grantham, in Lincolnshire, on the 18th of December, 1809. He was converted to God when about eighteen years of age, and soon afterwards began to labour for the good of others as a Local Preacher. When about twenty-four years old he was powerfully convinced that it was his duty to offer himself for the Missionary work. This he did in the year 1836 ; and, having undergone the usual examinations, he was accepted, and received an appointment to a Station in the island of Jamaica. He arrived at his destination on the 29th of May. Writing from View Plantation, Clarendon, where he had gone to commence a new Station, under date of the 8th of August, he says : " I and my dear wife reached this place on the 20th ult. Since that time three Sabbaths have elapsed, on each of which we had congregations for Divine worship. They consisted principally of apprenticed labourers, who were very attentive and as numerous as circumstances would allow. We have commenced Sunday School operations. Several persons, including both adults and children, have given in their names as scholars, and, from the great desire manifested for instruction of this kind, I think we are fully warranted in calculating on having a prosperous school on this Station, which I trust will be rendered a great blessing in a religious point of view to the people. There are many estates surrounding this place, on which there is a vast population of Negroes, to the whole of which, we trust, we shall be able to preach the Gospel."

The hopes of the zealous young Missionary were blessedly realized ; but he had only laboured at this place a little more than a year when he was called to rest from his toil and to enter into the joy of his Lord. He died of fever after an illness of only four days, on the 3rd of September, 1837. In communica-

ting the mournful intelligence to the Committee, the Rev. James Rowden, at whose house Mr. Jackson died, says: "I am confident you will sympathize with us in our painful bereavement. I immediately conveyed Mrs. Jackson to Kingston, and procured comfortable lodgings for her, where she will remain till after her confinement, which is expected to take place in about six weeks." Verily, the Missionaries and their families have a strong claim upon our sympathies and prayers, when called to pass through scenes such as these.

James Hickson

Was brought to an experimental acquaintance with "the truth as it is in Jesus," in the sixteenth year of his age. Alive to the interests of his own soul, and zealous for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom, he diligently improved his talents and opportunities, and for several years exercised his gifts as a Local Preacher among his own countrymen. He was fully persuaded that he was called to the work of the ministry, and yet he had much mental conflict through filial regard for his widowed mother. At length, however, he offered himself as a Missionary, and was appointed to Newfoundland by the Conference of 1815. He embarked at Poole on the 15th of November, in company with his brother Thomas, who had nobly offered himself for the same blessed work. For nine years James laboured faithfully and successfully on the various Stations to which he was appointed. He returned home, on account of the failure of his health, in 1825, and was appointed to a Circuit in England. He was eminently successful in winning souls to Christ. His sermons were evangelical and practical, remarkably perspicuous and expressive, delivered with solemnity and affection, and usually accompanied with an unction which rendered them truly profitable. His uniformly upright conduct and his serious, gentle and kind behaviour secured for him warm friendship and general esteem. At length his health failed, and it was evident that his work was done. He was graciously supported in his last illness. In the time of his greatest suffering, "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, kept his heart and mind through Christ Jesus," so that he awaited his departure with

cheerful resignation. He died on the 3rd of September, 1837, in the forty-sixth year of his age and the twenty-third of his ministry.

William Ellis

Was a warm-hearted and zealous Irishman, who received an appointment to Newfoundland in 1808. In that extensive and arduous field of labour he spent about thirty years of his active and useful life travelling by land and by water among the coves and fishing stations, preaching to the scattered and destitute settlers "the glorious Gospel of the blessed God." In the discharge of his laborious Missionary duties he was often exposed to frost and snow, and to the storms and tempests of winter, to an extent which not only involved him in much personal discomfort and privation, but which also repeatedly endangered his life. On two occasions he narrowly escaped being drowned, the good Providence of God interposing on his behalf in a very remarkable manner. But in his own estimation, if not in the estimation of worldly men, he had his reward in being the honoured instrument of carrying the good news of salvation to many who, without his zealous efforts and the efforts of his associates, might have lived and died in their sins, and in seeing precious souls won for Christ and built up into a living, prosperous, Christian Church, to the honour and glory of God.

Nor did Mr. Ellis confine his labours to the spiritually destitute colonists. He occasionally came into contact with the degraded wandering native Indians, and he never failed to try to lead them to Christ. Writing from Port de Grave in November, 1819, he says: "On the 14th of last month I baptized six Labrador Indians in a place called Bearnud, about one mile from this. They are all of the same family, consisting of a mother, her daughter, son, and son's wife, and their two children. The mother and her son understand a little English, and I was enabled to converse with the rest through an interpreter. In talking with them I found they had some knowledge of the Christian religion; that they wished to be baptized by a Protestant Missionary, and to be more fully instructed in the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. Never was there such a

congregation assembled in Bearnud, as that which was collected on the day of their baptism. Great numbers were in tears; and the looks and gestures of my dear Indians seemed to say, 'Are we not men and brethren?' I intend to spend one night in the week in teaching them to read, and I hope, as they intend to return to their own place in the spring, to send them to the bosom of their own tribe with a Bible in their hands and able to understand its holy contents."

At length the time came when the devoted Missionary was called to rest from his labours. He never fully recovered from the injury which he sustained whilst struggling in the water, and during the latter part of his life he was unable to sustain close application to study and was physically weak. Still he continued to work for God, as his strength would permit, to the very last. He died in the full assurance of hope on the 19th of September, 1837, in the fifty-seventh year of his age and the thirty-first of his ministry. In reporting his death the Rev. John Pickavant says: "His name will long be held in remembrance in this District, from one extremity of it to another. Few Ministers have laboured so long without, in some instance, giving offence; but it was his happiness to live and die without ever having a single enemy."

Samuel Stuart Johnson

Was a young man of deep piety and ardent zeal, and was himself the fruit of Missionary labour. He was a native of Harbour Island, in the Bahama District; and having been brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in early life, he received an appointment as Assistant Missionary soon after his conversion. In the year 1835 he was appointed by the Conference to labour in Nova Scotia; but the climate proved too cold and bleak for his somewhat delicate constitution, and with a view to the benefit of his health he was removed to Bermuda. Here, however, his indisposition increased, and he became unfit for his public duties. He therefore returned to the place of his birth early in 1837, where, after suffering severely for some time, he died on the 30th of October in the same year. In reporting his death the Rev. W. West says: "He has left

behind him a name that will live long in the affections of those who knew him, a reputation which many greater than he might envy. He lived and died a Christian."

George O. Wrigley

Accepted an appointment to Western Africa at the Conference of 1836, and arrived at Cape Coast with his courageous wife on the 15th of September. They met with a very kind reception, and entered upon their work in the true Missionary spirit. Referring to his first impressions, when writing to the Committee a few weeks afterwards, Mr. Wrigley says: "It is impossible for me to describe my feelings on first viewing the place of my future labours. I thought of my predecessor, of his labours, and of his premature end; nor could I for some time restrain those painful emotions which these thoughts excited. They were not, however, of long continuance; nor have I since laboured under similar feelings for a single moment." Whilst the devoted Missionary had soon occasion to rejoice over visible fruits of his earnest efforts to win souls for Christ, it was not long before he was called to mourn over painful and afflictive bereavements. He had not been five months in the country when he lost by death, in one day, his beloved wife and his attached colleague Mr. Harrop, Mrs. Harrop having died a few days before. We may imagine the feelings of the bereaved Missionary when thus left alone, the only survivor of the Mission party at Cape Coast; nor can we wonder at his being occasionally the subject of gloomy thoughts. Writing to the Committee soon afterwards he says: "Life, indeed, in my circumstances, has no charms; nor could I support myself beneath the weight of such a stroke, were it not for the hope of, ere long, joining the glorified spirit of my devoted partner, and, in the meantime, of following up those victories of the Cross of our Immanuel, which together we have been enabled to achieve to His glory, since we arrived on these inhospitable shores."

Notwithstanding his personal and domestic afflictions and bereavements, (for he himself was frequently down with fever,) Mr. Wrigley did indeed nobly follow up the triumphs of the Cross which he and his devoted wife and colleagues had won;

and the fruit of their evangelical labours remains to this day ; but it was not long before his hope of reunion in the better country was realized. He had continued his zealous labours only about seven months longer, when he too was carried off by the prevailing fever of the country, and called to rest from his toil. He died happy in God at Cape Coast Town, on the 6th of November, 1837, and the members of the infant Church were once more left as sheep having no shepherd.

Abraham Cooper

Was an amiable and promising young Minister, and received an appointment to Tobago at the Conference of 1835. He commenced his labours among the poor Negroes and British colonists with becoming zeal and diligence ; but he had not been long in the island when he began to show signs of pulmonary consumption. He continued at his post of duty, however, for more than two years, preaching occasionally as his strength would permit with much acceptance. But in the beginning of 1838 it became evident that no improvement could be expected so long as he continued within the tropics. Arrangements were accordingly made for his return to England.

The present writer first became acquainted with Mr. Cooper on the 31st of January in that year, when he arrived in Grenada with a party of Missionary brethren on their way to the District Meeting in Trinidad. We had been shipwrecked two days before, and having lost our vessel and been obliged to hire another, we landed in Grenada, with such of our baggage as could be saved from the sinking ship, in pitiful plight, and no one showed more sympathy for us than poor Mr. Cooper, who was then quite an invalid. We sailed again in the evening and he accompanied us to the District Meeting. The vessel had been employed in conveying cattle from the Spanish Main, and was in a very filthy state, so that we were obliged to sleep on the deck, the invalid among the rest ; but we made him as comfortable as possible, and the weather was favourable. After the District Meeting Mr. Cooper embarked for England, where he arrived in safety, and hopes were for some time entertained as to his recovery. But these hopes were not realized. He became

gradually worse, and died in great peace at the house of his brother-in-law, Mr. Ollis, Oldland Common, near Bristol, on the 8th of June, 1838, in the twenty-ninth year of his age and the third of his ministry. When reminded by his brother just before his death that he had spent his life in a glorious cause, he meekly replied, "My hope is not there : I rest alone on the Divine atonement."

John Barry

Had great aptitude for Missionary work, and great zeal and earnestness in the enterprise. His career was somewhat chequered, and marked by incidents of more than ordinary interest. He was converted to God in early life, and called to preach the Gospel in Ireland, his native country. He was appointed in 1824 as a Missionary to the island of Jamaica. There he laboured with diligence and success for about eight years, amid much opposition and persecution, of which he had his full share, and which he endured with a measure of patience, courage, and Christian fortitude, worthy of the highest commendation. Although often exposed to personal insult and ridicule, he never allowed himself to be turned aside from the great object of his Mission.

Writing to the Missionary Committee from Grateful Hill in August, 1825, he says : "With respect to my Station, I am happy to inform you that the work is advancing, the congregations have increased, and I have added sixty to the Society during the last quarter. It is also delightful to know that under affliction and in the hour of death the poor Negroes enjoy the comforts of the Gospel, and evidence the triumph of faith. On the 15th ult. I attended the funeral of M. A. Rutherford, a Negro belonging to Sue River Plantation, whose end was truly blessed. A little before her death she exhorted her fellow-slaves to continue steadfast in the faith, and in the most excruciating pain she exclaimed : "O how kindly my dear Massa deals with me ! Him love my poor soul now, and take me from this tormenting world to glory. Me see heaven waiting for me."

On his return to England, in 1832, Mr. Barry had the opportunity of giving useful evidence before Committees of both

Houses of Parliament, on subjects intimately connected with the interests of the Negro race. He was afterwards appointed to Upper Canada and to Bermuda, in both of which places he did good service for the Mission cause ; but, having ruptured a blood-vessel, he returned to England in 1836. After a short residence in Guernsey he visited America and the West Indies ; but the means used for his recovery proved unavailing. He gradually became worse, and died in Montreal on the 21st of June, 1838. He was a man of an amiable disposition, genuine piety, and considerable talents for the work of the ministry. In his last illness he was graciously supported by the consolations of that Gospel which he had faithfully preached to others, and resting on the atonement he died in peace and in joyful hope of everlasting life.

Thomas Henry Bewley.

It is recorded of him that at the early age of ten years he saw and felt the importance of true religion ; and that, influenced by the example and the instruction of a kind and pious father, he frequently applied to the throne of grace for the pardoning mercy of his Redeemer. At the age of sixteen he obtained a clear and satisfactory evidence of his acceptance with God, the remembrance of which was a source of great satisfaction to his mind through life and even in the hour of death. In 1823 he gave himself up to the work of the Christian ministry, and was appointed to the Whitehaven Circuit, where he laboured with great acceptance and success, as he did also afterwards in Ireland, Edinburgh, and Manchester. But in 1829, owing to severe mental depression, bodily afflictions, and other causes, he was compelled to retire from the work.

In the course of a few years, however, his health was re-established, and his mind being fully alive to the great work of saving the souls of perishing sinners, he again offered himself for the work of the ministry, and was most cordially accepted by the Conference. Being accustomed to tuition and well informed on the general subject of education, he now received an *appointment* as the General Superintendent of the *Mission Schools in Jamaica*. He arrived in that colony in the beginning

of the year 1837, and was spared by Divine Providence to introduce a system of education and to commence the establishment of schools well adapted to meet the wants of the children of the recently emancipated population. But he soon fell a sacrifice to the climate, and was called away in the prime of life, and when actively engaged in plans of usefulness. His last moments were peculiarly solemn and affecting, and will never be forgotten by those who were with him. When smitten down with yellow fever, which was then prevalent in the island, and aware of the probable consequences, he exhibited unwavering confidence in God and entire resignation to His blessed will. His faith in the great atonement, though tried, was unshaken; and although the prospect of leaving a widow and five children in a foreign land for a while pressed heavily upon his spirit, he was enabled to triumph; and in the midst of much bodily suffering he exclaimed, "I now give up everything earthly. My only care is about my wife and children; but I give all up: they are in good hands. I am ready to go." On being asked if Jesus was precious, he replied, "O yes! O yes! It is all right. I have delightful views of the heavenly world. It is all well." His voice soon failed, and he rapidly, but peacefully and victoriously, sank into the arms of death, and his happy spirit escaped to the regions of endless bliss, on the 14th of July, 1838, in the thirty-eighth year of his age.

Thomas Wall

Was a young Minister of a social and happy disposition, of sincere piety, and some talents, which, had he been spared to improve them, would no doubt "have gained other talents beside them." But his period of toil was short and his sun went down while it was yet day. He was appointed as a Missionary to St. Mary's on the River Gambia, Western Africa, at the Conference of 1837, and arrived there on the 26th of November in the same year. He was favoured with tolerable health for six or seven months, up to the time of the fatal attack which ended his life. He was at length seized with fever. At first it was hoped he would pass through it in safety, and become seasoned to the climate; but unfavourable symptoms soon appeared,

and, notwithstanding all that his medical attendant could do, after four days' illness he sank under its influence. He died happy in God on the 24th of August, 1838, just twelve months after Mr. Wilkinson, his predecessor, was called to rest from his labours.

During his last illness Mr. Wall was aware of his approaching end, and being the only European on the Station, he showed remarkable forethought and presence of mind both with regard to himself and the safety of the Mission property. He was frequently engaged in prayer, in which he was joined by the Assistant Missionary and native converts, who were unwearied in their attentions, and remained with him night and day. He expressed a wish to be interred in the burial-ground in preference to the chapel, gave directions for the Mission-house to be locked up till the arrival of Mr. Fox from Macarthy's Island, and then composed himself as if awaiting the final summons. Some of his last words were addressed to his Assistant and some of the Local Preachers who were assembled around his death-bed. He caught hold of the hand of one of them, named Sack M'Cumba, and said with considerable energy, "Sack, do all you can to save sinners!" and soon afterwards gently passed away to be for ever with the Lord. On Sunday, September 23rd, having arrived from the interior, Mr. Fox preached his funeral sermon to a deeply attentive and affected congregation, from Phil. i. 21, "To die is gain."

John Remmington

Was a native of Cloughjordan, Ireland. In the year 1790, he earnestly sought and obtained the Divine favour, and gave uniform evidence that his conversion was genuine. He entered the ministry in 1802; and after labouring two years in his native land he offered himself for the foreign work. In 1804 he received an appointment as a Missionary to Newfoundland: there his zealous efforts to win souls for Christ were very successful, and he was highly esteemed by his brethren in the ministry and the people among whom he laboured. It would appear, however, that the rigorous climate of Newfoundland and the exposure to which he was subject in itinerating among

the scattered settlers were trying to his health ; so that in 1810 he returned to Ireland, where he thenceforth exercised his useful ministry without interruption until 1824, when the failure of his strength and the increase of his infirmities obliged him to retire from the full work and to become a Supernumerary. He continued to preach occasionally, however, as his health would permit, till within a short time of his death. He was a man of unquestionable piety, uprightness, and simplicity, and enjoyed uninterrupted communion with God. In his last illness he suffered much, but was patient, and resigned to the Divine will. A little before his death he said to his family, "O, be a family of prayer! Come, come, I want you all in heaven." His sorrowing wife replied, "You will soon have the victory." He answered, "I have the victory." She enquired "Is the Saviour precious?" "Yes," said he, "very, very, very precious." His last words were, "Farewell! All is well." He died November 11th, 1838, aged sixty-six years.

Thomas Edwards

Was received on probation by the Conference of 1834, and for a short time laboured in the home work. It is said of him that "his piety was deep and sincere; his ministerial talents were very acceptable among all classes; he was diligent in every department of his work; and his labours were crowned with success." Having offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, he received an appointment to the West Indies, and sailed for St. Kitt's at the latter end of 1836. In that island he laboured happily and usefully for about fourteen months, being much esteemed both by his colleagues in the ministry and by the people of his charge. He then removed to Nevis where he was equally happy and successful in the exercise of his ministry. He had laboured there, however, only about nine months when an attack of fever ended his valuable life. Through an illness of six days, he was graciously supported by the presence of God. He died triumphantly happy, on the 23rd of November, 1838, in the twenty-eighth year of his age, and the fifth of his ministry. This sudden bereavement was keenly felt by the Societies and congregations of Nevis; but the loss of the Church was no doubt his eternal gain.

Edward J. Peard

Is described as "a man of fervent piety and useful ministerial talents;" and it was expected that he would prove a successful labourer in Western Africa, for which country he had offered himself as a Missionary. But in the order of Divine Providence, his life was brought to a premature close under circumstances peculiarly affecting. He embarked with Mrs. Peard for the River Gambia, on board the "Columbine," on the 23rd of November, 1838. Proceeding down the English Channel they encountered a terrific gale, which obliged the captain, in common with other commanders similarly circumstanced, to make for some harbour of refuge. Early on the morning of the 28th the "Columbine" was off Portland Bill, nobly struggling with the storm. About eight o'clock she was seen nearing the shore on the shingle beach, and every moment getting into a more dangerous position. The man at the helm was supposed to have been washed from his position by the violence of the waves, in consequence of which the vessel swung round, and being caught between two tremendous seas, she was dashed to pieces almost instantaneously, and all on board perished.

When the intelligence of this disaster reached London, Dr. Alder, one of the General Secretaries of the Missionary Society, who had only a few days before parted with Mr. and Mrs. Peard on board the ship at Gravesend, hastened to Portland, with the view if possible to recover the remains of the sainted dead, that they might be honoured with appropriate funeral rites. The body of Mr. Peard was found, and was interred in the burial-ground connected with the Wesleyan chapel at Portland, as was that also of his devoted wife, when washed on shore nearly a month afterwards. To mark the spot where the remains of the shipwrecked Missionary and his wife were laid, and as a mark of respect for their memory, the members of Society at Portland erected a neat stone with a suitable inscription, on which the writer looked several years afterwards with feelings of peculiar interest, as he had returned from Africa some time before in the same "Columbine" which was thus unhappily lost with all on board. How deep and mysterious are *the ways of Divine Providence!*

Robert H. Crane

Was a native of Nova Scotia, and was brought to God in early life through the instrumentality of a zealous Missionary sent from England. He entered on the work of the ministry in 1818, and although his gifts were of a plain and humble character, he possessed some qualities of great importance in the sacred office. He was remarkably mild and affectionate, and, whilst he was highly esteemed and respected by all classes of the community with whom he came in contact, he won by his kindness and his amiable manners the love of his brethren in the ministry, and the affection of the people of his charge. For several years Mr. Crane laboured in his native province and other parts of British North America, and we have heard him relate many interesting incidents of his toils and triumphs among the scattered settlers to whom his ministry was made a great blessing.

In 1832 he was appointed to the West Indies ; and his conciliatory spirit admirably fitted him to deal with the poor Negroes and their employers during the transition from slavery to freedom. Nor was his ministry without some features which peculiarly adapted it to the time and the circumstances in which he was called to labour. If it was not remarkable for its fire or energy, it was plain, simple, and instructive. His first Station was Kingstown, St. Vincent's, where we first became personally acquainted with him, and where we learned to "esteem him very highly in love for his work's sake." He was afterwards removed to Tobago, and after fulfilling his appointed period of service there, he returned to St. Vincent's, where he continued till called to rest from his labours.

Advancing years and increasing infirmities induced Mr. Crane to request to be allowed to return to his native province ; and this had been granted ; but just as he was preparing to take leave of his brethren at the approaching District Meeting, he was called to sicken and to die. He was seized with fever of a malignant type, then prevalent in the island ; and it proved fatal after an illness of four days. He died in peace on Sunday, the 3rd of February, 1833. This was the

first Sabbath of the District Meeting, and most of the Missionaries were present. His funeral took place next day, and was largely attended, both Ministers and people being deeply affected at the sudden and unexpected removal of their dear friend and brother. The writer arrived from Trinidad in the afternoon, and when the small sloop in which he sailed came to anchor in Kingstown harbour, a party of brethren came off in a boat to greet him and to communicate the painful intelligence, and he will never forget what he felt when the announcement was made: "Brother Crane is dead and was buried this morning." He endeavoured to lift up his heart to God, and once more quoted his favourite motto: "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day; for the night cometh, when no man can work."

William Juff.

When the island of St. Mary, in the mouth of the River Gambia, Western Africa, became a British settlement in 1820, a number of Negro slaves were brought from Goree by their owners as domestic servants and artisans. Among these was a young Jollof named William Juff, who, having been brought under the sound of the Gospel as preached by the Wesleyan Missionaries, was numbered among the earliest converts to the faith of Christ. The present writer, who took charge of the Station in 1831, has a very pleasant recollection of him as a humble and earnest disciple of the Lord Jesus. William made rapid progress in learning to read, and in the knowledge of the English language generally; and he soon became a useful teacher, exhorter, and interpreter. Having been made instrumental in the conversion of several of his sable countrymen, to whom he preached in their native tongue, he was at length promoted to the honourable position of Assistant Missionary. In that vocation he profited much; and, although his talents were scarcely equal to those of some of the other native agents who were raised up on the Mission Stations in Western Africa, his amiable temper and upright conduct rendered him beloved and respected by all around him. Having laboured at St. Mary's about five years, he died in peace of the fever of the country on *the 1st of March, 1839.*

Henry Fleet

Is said to have been "a deeply pious and devout man, and a zealous Minister of Jesus Christ." He was willing to make any sacrifice, and to expose himself to any climate, that he might be instrumental in bringing the souls of men to a saving acquaintance with the truth of God. He was appointed as a Missionary to Sierra Leone in 1838, and embarked with his wife in good health and spirits. But they suffered much during their passage, which was unusually protracted, boisterous, and uncomfortable. The effect upon Mrs. Fleet's delicate constitution was such that she did not live to reach the Station. She died on board a day or two before the vessel gained her destined port; and was interred in the deep blue sea about fifty miles from the coast of Africa. Mr. Fleet landed in Sierra Leone on the 7th of January in a state of great mental depression, from which he never fully recovered, although he bowed to the will of God. He laboured according to his ability for a short time, but his course was soon run. He died happy in God after a few days' illness on the 30th of May, 1839, in the twenty-second year of his age, before he had been resident in the colony quite five months. In the prospect of death he was cheered by the consolation of Divine grace and by the hope of soon meeting in heaven with those who had gone before.

John Bell

Was converted in early life. At the age of eighteen he began to exhort sinners to repentance; and it soon became evident that he was called to the ministry. At the Conference of 1838 he was accepted as a candidate, and for some time he laboured successfully in the home work. Having offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, he, in 1838, received an appointment to the West Indies to supply the place of a young Minister who had just been called away by death. He entered upon his work in the island of Nevis in a manner which gave observers much hope. But he had laboured there only a few months when he

also was struck down by fever. He fell asleep in Jesus on the 16th of August, 1839, aged twenty-seven years. Mr. Bell was buried by the side of the Rev. T. Edwards who had died on the same Station about nine months before.

James Parkinson

Was a native of Liverpool, where he was brought to the saving knowledge of the truth in early life. He received an appointment as a Missionary to Western Africa in 1838. He arrived at St. Mary's, on the River Gambia, with his wife, after a tedious passage, on the 13th of December; and both of them being in every respect, to all appearance, well fitted for the work which they had undertaken, they entered upon it with a cheering prospect of success. For some time Mr. Parkinson laboured without interruption, and his letters to the Missionary Committee were of a most encouraging character; but, when the first rainy season set in, trouble commenced. The Missionary was seized with fever one Sabbath evening, after preaching; and such was the rapid progress of the disease, that he sank under its influence on the following Sunday morning, the 8th of September, 1839. The sequel is most affecting.

Mrs. Parkinson had been seized with the same disorder in the meantime, and as she was dangerously ill when her husband died, the friends in attendance kept her in ignorance of the mournful fact, fearing that the intelligence of her sad bereavement might be more than she could bear. At length her attention was attracted by a strange noise, which she could not reconcile with the wonted stillness of the Sabbath. She enquired what it meant. It came from the native carpenters who were making her husband's coffin, at a short distance from the Mission premises; but the friends evaded the question, and tried to pacify her. Two days after the death of her husband Mrs. Parkinson gave birth to a daughter. Again she asked about her husband's health, and she was told that "he was doing very well indeed," when she expressed her surprise that he did not come to see her and the babe, and could scarcely be restrained from rising from her bed and attempting to go and see him. The remainder of this sad story is soon told. On the following day,

September the 12th, she had a relapse, and gently breathed her spirit into the hands of Him who gave it, and joined her beloved partner in the "better country." Then the mystery was unravelled. The poor little orphan babe was soon afterwards called away to join her parents in the skies, and another Mission family was thus swept away by African fever.

Richard Pattison,

Whilst yet a youth, began to exhort sinners to "flee from the wrath to come." He offered himself for the foreign work, and was, in 1791, appointed as a Missionary to the West Indies. For fourteen years he laboured and suffered for the glory of God and the salvation of souls in different islands with a measure of patience, zeal, and earnestness in which he was equalled by few of his contemporaries, and surpassed by none. Nor did he labour in vain. There is reason to believe that he had the honour of turning many of the sable children of Ham from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God. His first Station was St. Kitt's, from which he was soon called away to supply a vacancy in Grenada. On arriving there he wrote to Dr. Coke as follows, under date August 26th, 1793 :

"After the death of Mr. Bishop, our dear friend, the Rev. Mr. Dent, Rector of St. George's, wrote to Mr. Baxter for a Preacher. Mr. Baxter requested Mr. Harper to send one, there being three at St. Kitt's ; who, after receiving the letter, asked me if I was willing to go. I consented, and immediately took my departure for Antigua, and from thence sailed to Grenada. We stayed a day at St. Vincent's, which I spent with Mr. Clarke. He and I visited the prison in which Mr. Lumb was confined. I likewise was in the chapel, and felt strange emotions that such a fine house of worship should have been shut up, in which the everlasting Gospel should be proclaimed. I arrived here on the 2nd instant, and the people showed every mark of gratitude for a Preacher. The Rev. Mr. Dent also received me with all possible kindness, and cheerfully delivered up the care of the Society into my hands, which had been kept together since Mr. Bishop's death, with the assistance of Mr. Hallett, the parish clerk, who cast in his lot with us under Mr. Bishop's ministry.

I have this day heard of the death of Mr. Graham, in Barbadoes. I earnestly hope that the frequent deaths of Missionaries in the West Indies will not discourage our brethren from coming out; for I am sure the inhabitants of the islands, at this time, cry to those on your side of the Atlantic, *Come over and help us!* Respecting myself, I bless God I never enjoyed better health in England than I continue to have in the West Indies; and I never found my heart more engaged in the work than since I have been in Grenada. 'For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.' In this spirit he continued to labour in the different islands till in the course of years failure of health rendered a change of climate necessary.

After his return to England Mr. Pattison laboured in various Circuits with advantage to the cause in which he was engaged. At length, in 1835, he retired as a Supernumerary; but he continued to preach and to advocate the cause of Missions till within a few weeks of his death, which occurred on Sunday, the 29th of December, 1839, in the seventieth year of his age. In his last hours he thanked God, Who gave him the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

William Murray

Was a native of Barnard Castle. Having been religiously trained from childhood, he gave himself to God at an early age. Soon after his conversion and his call to the ministry, he offered himself as a candidate for Mission work, and was accepted by the Conference in 1825. He was appointed to British North America, and for several years laboured with much zeal and perseverance, and with an encouraging measure of success, in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. In 1834 he was transferred to the Newfoundland District, and travelled in the St. John's, Harbour Grace, and Port de Grave Circuits. During his stay in the place last named his health gave way, and his constitution became so impaired that his removal to a warmer climate was recommended as the only means likely to promote his recovery. After visiting his native land and the West Indies without any permanent benefit, he returned to St. John's, New Brunswick, where his afflictions were augmented by the death of

his wife. From that time his disease gathered strength ; but his consolation in the Lord became stronger. To many of his brethren who visited him during his illness, he gave satisfactory evidence of a well-grounded hope of heaven. He was released from his sufferings by a peaceful death on the 16th of January, 1840.

John Spinney

Was appointed in 1835 to Fiji. Accompanied by his wife he embarked in apparent health and spirits, and reached his destination in the early part of the following year. He entered upon his work among the dark and savage people to whom he was sent in the spirit of Him who came to seek and to save that which was lost ; but he had not laboured long when his health began to fail. When he could no longer perform his ministerial duties, arrangements were made for his removal to a more suitable climate, and he embarked with his family for Australia, *viâ* the Friendly Islands.

Writing to the Missionary Committee from Vavau, under date of June 20th, 1839, the Rev. John Thomas makes the following touching reference to the invalid : "Mr. Spinney and family are here on their way to Sydney. Mr. Spinney's complaint is consumption. He has not been able to attend to any duties since October last, and all human ground of hope is now taken away as to his recovery. But as he will be able to obtain many helps in Sydney which these islands do not furnish ; and as his afflicted wife, with her three small children, would be in very destitute circumstances, in case his death should take place here ; he is now about to make the trial. Much praise is due to Mr. Lyth, who has paid the most unwearied and affectionate attention to him from the time he was taken ill."

Mr. Spinney lingered until he reached Australia, but lived only a little longer. He died in peace at Sydney, on the 10th of February, 1840, and his widow and children returned to England, followed by the prayers and best wishes of a large circle of friends, who sincerely sympathized with them in their afflictive bereavement.

John H. Bumby

Was born at Thirsk, in Yorkshire, on the 17th of November, 1808. His pious parents trained him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. At the age of fifteen he was brought to the enjoyment of God's mercy, through faith in Christ. His subsequent life proved the genuineness of his conversion; and he soon began to call sinners to repentance. He entered the office of the Christian ministry in 1830. For several years he travelled in various Circuits in England, and being gifted above many of his brethren, he might have occupied a prominent position in the home work, had he remained in his own country. But, constrained by the love of Christ and sympathy for the heathen, he offered himself in 1838 as a Missionary to New Zealand, and was appointed by the Conference to the important office of Chairman of the District.

Mr. Bumby, accompanied by his sister as his housekeeper, (he was never married,) reached his destination in the month of March, 1839. His letters to his friends and to the Committee in London make it evident that he entered upon his work in New Zealand in the true Missionary spirit. Had his valuable life been spared he would no doubt have been made very useful; but his career was brought to a premature close in a manner truly affecting to contemplate. In superintending the affairs of the District committed to his charge, Mr. Bumby found it necessary to take extensive journeys both by sea and by land. It was in the course of one of these journeys that the faithful servant of God found a watery grave. After an absence of two or three weeks, on his way home, he had occasion to cross an arm of the sea known as the Bay of Thames. The weather was remarkably fine as he sailed along in a large canoe, in company with eighteen natives. No danger was apprehended from any source, when one of the men stood up to set the sail, with a view to accelerate their progress, a light breeze having just sprung up. At the same moment several of the other natives rose from their seats, with eager haste to assist; and the canoe, being deeply laden, was upset, and the whole party submerged in the mighty deep. *It was a moment of intense consternation; but as soon as the*



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natives recovered themselves a little, (for most of them were excellent swimmers,) they made a strenuous effort to save not only their own lives, but also the life of the Missionary. They soon succeeded in righting the canoe, and in getting into it Mr. Bumby, who was unable to swim; but when partly baled out the frail vessel was upset again, by the men who were struggling in the water. Again they got the drowning Missionary lifted upon the canoe, capsized as it was, but he was washed off by the waves. As there was no other vessel in sight, all hope of deliverance was now taken away; and the devoted Missionary and twelve of the natives sank to rise no more, only six escaping to the shore to carry to their friends the news of the disaster. This melancholy event occurred on the 26th of June, 1840; and when the intelligence was conveyed to the Mission Station at Mangungu, it produced a scene of lamentation, mourning and woe, never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it.

William James

Was a native of Liverpool, and the son of a captain of a merchant vessel, trading with the Western Coast of Africa. What influence this circumstance might have on his youthful mind with regard to fixing the scene of his future labours, is not known; but both his parents having been called away by death soon after his conversion and call to the ministry, he nobly offered himself as a Missionary to the children of Ham, and received an appointment to Western Africa, where additional labourers were urgently required to carry on a work auspiciously begun. He arrived at St. Mary's on the Gambia, with Mrs. James, on the 15th of March, 1840; and they at once proceeded up the river to Macarthy's Island, to which they had been appointed. Mr. James was a young Minister of more than ordinary promise. His bright intelligence, noble soul and moral fortitude gave hopes of his rising to considerable eminence in the Church of Christ. But it pleased the Lord in His infinite wisdom soon to call him to his reward in heaven. About three months and a half after his arrival, having preached three times on the Sabbath, travelled about six miles in the heat of the day, watched over a dying native convert till midnight, and laid him

in the silent grave the following day, the Missionary himself was smitten with fever; and after lingering for eight days, he finished his course with joy on the 1st of July, 1840, in the twenty-fourth year of his age. His widow embarked for England about a month after the death of her husband, followed by the good wishes, prayers and sympathy of all who knew her.

David Jehu

Was another young Missionary of great promise who fell a sacrifice to the climate of Western Africa, soon after he entered on his labours there. He is described as "a young man of deep, uniform and consistent piety; and he possessed in an eminent degree a meek and quiet spirit." He had enjoyed the advantages of the Wesleyan Theological Institution for one year, when, at the Conference of 1839, he offered himself to fill a vacancy in Sierra Leone, and received an appointment to that Station. He reached the place in safety on the 23rd of December. But he was not long permitted to occupy his honourable but dangerous post of duty. The first sickly season had scarcely commenced when he was smitten down by malignant fever, and after lingering for a while was released from his sufferings. He had laboured only about six months in Africa when he was called to his heavenly rest. He died not only in great peace but in the full triumph of faith on the 1st of July, 1840, in the thirtieth year of his age.

Daniel Stepney

Was accepted as a candidate for the Wesleyan ministry in 1835; and, having offered himself for the foreign department of the work, he received an appointment to the West Indies. He entered on his duties as a Missionary in the Antigua District at an eventful period, the poor Negroes being then in a state of transition from slavery to freedom. He laboured successively in the islands of Dominica, Nevis, Tortola, and St. Christopher's, and it is believed on every Station he was instrumental in winning souls for Christ. Indeed during the time that he spent in Tor-

tola and the Virgin Islands, which comprised his last Circuit, a gracious revival of religion was experienced. In a letter addressed to the Missionary Committee by Mr. Stepney and his colleagues, the Rev. Messrs. Bates and Tregaskis, under date of April 17th, 1839, they say: "Great excitement has prevailed in the town during the season of religious revival among us, and the house of God has been extraordinarily thronged. At the West End also a gracious work is going on among the members of Society and other persons, and many are being gathered into the fold of Christ." The devoted Missionary was labouring thus successfully when the indisposition of his wife rendered it necessary for him to take a short voyage with her for the benefit of her health. He accordingly took her to St. Christopher's; and whilst there he himself was seized with fever which in the course of a few days proved fatal. Mr. Stepney died in great peace on the 11th of August, 1840, in the twenty-eighth year of his age; and Mrs. Stepney was left a lonely widow in a very delicate state of health.

Edward G. Squarebridge

Was the son of an esteemed Minister of long standing in the Wesleyan Methodist Church; and as such was favoured with religious training from his childhood, and with a good education. After residing at Kingswood School the usual time as a scholar, he was employed for several years as one of the masters in that establishment. During his residence there he was brought to a saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ; and having the conviction that the great Head of the Church designed him to be separated unto the work of the ministry, he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen. He was solemnly ordained to the sacred office at City Road Chapel, London, on the 14th of April, 1839, when he witnessed a good confession; and, having received an appointment to the Mysore, he embarked at Gravesend on the following day, in company with the Rev. Messrs. John Garrett, William Arthur and George U. Pope.

This noble band of Missionaries reached their destination in safety; but the career of Mr. Squarebridge was soon terminated. He had scarcely been a year in the Mission field when he was

summoned to rest from his labours. But short as was his day, it is believed that he did not labour in vain. During his brief residence in India he was diligent in his efforts to acquire the language of the people among whom he was anxious to proclaim the everlasting Gospel; and he was so successful that for several months before his death he usually visited two or three surrounding villages daily, and was in the habit of addressing the people extemporaneously in the Canarese language. Thus devoted to his work, and possessing a vigorous constitution, with more than ordinary aptitude for the acquisition of languages, his brethren indulged a hope that he would be permitted long and usefully to continue his labours. But the Lord seeth not as man seeth. This gifted and devoted Missionary was seized with cholera, at that time raging in the neighbourhood; which in the short space of eighteen hours ended his life and ministry. When under the power of the fearful disease he said: "I have no ecstasy; but I have peace. I believe that I am of the family of God; and that when I die I shall through the infinite merits of Christ go to heaven." He died on the 18th of August, 1840, much regretted by his brethren, to whom he had endeared himself by his simplicity of character, and by his sound, deep, practical piety.

John Lee.

Among all the Missionaries with whom the present writer was personally associated in distant lands none was more bland, genial, kind-hearted and good-natured than the Rev. John Lee. He originally went out to the West Indies as a Teacher on the "Calder Trust Estates," in the island of St. Vincent, in which capacity he laboured successfully for several years, cheerfully spending his Sabbaths in helping the Missionaries, as a Local Preacher. Being truly devoted to the service of God, and having a fair amount of natural ability for preaching the Gospel, he commended himself to his brethren as a person fit to be employed in the full work of the ministry. He was accordingly received on trial in 1837, and gave great satisfaction to his brethren and to the people to whom he ministered. It was hoped, from his generally good health and apparently vigorous constitution, that he would be long spared to labour in the

Lord's vineyard. But it was otherwise arranged in the order of Divine Providence. About three years after he had joined our ranks he was smitten with fever and died. He finished his course with joy in the island of St. Vincent, on the 13th of November, 1840, where he will long be remembered as an affectionate friend, a consistent Christian, and a zealous Missionary.



WESLEYAN CHAPEL, LA BAY, GRENADA.



SIXTH DECADE.

1841—1850.

William Rigglesworth

Entered upon Missionary work in the West Indies in 1834, just after the passing of the Act for the emancipation of the Negro slaves ; and he laboured among them with zeal, diligence and success, during the transition period from bondage to freedom. The Stations which he successively occupied were Nevis, Tortola, Montserrat, St. Kitt's and Dominica. In the island last named he finished his course with joy on the 4th of January, 1841. He was a man of sound piety, laborious habits and unblemished reputation ; and enjoyed, in a high degree, the confidence of his brethren.

John Greenwood

In the eighteenth year of his age obtained a clear sense of the pardoning love of God. He soon began to call sinners to repentance ; and at the Conference of 1829 he was appointed as a Missionary to the island of Jamaica, where he laboured for several years. During the troublous times of 1831 and 1832, he bore a considerable share in the persecutions to which the Missionaries were subjected ; and on one occasion he suffered imprisonment in the cause of truth and righteousness. But he endured it all with becoming meekness and resignation to the will of God. Nor was he unprepared for the closing scene, although it came unexpectedly. In his last illness he said, "I am happy. It *would be very ungrateful in me not to trust in God now.* The

cup which my Father hath given me, shall I not drink it?" He exchanged mortality for life, January 7th, 1841, in the thirty-fourth year of his age and the twelfth of his ministry.

William Scott Fox

Was the son of an eminent Indian Missionary, the Rev. William Buckley Fox, and was born in Ceylon. It is therefore not surprising that, from his early youth, his sympathies were drawn out towards the Mission work and the land of his birth. His piety, and the diligent cultivation of his talents, recommended him for admission into the Theological Institution, when he was only nineteen years of age. In 1837 he embarked for India, where, by his successful study of the native languages, his uniform piety, and his constant diligence in the Lord's work, he gave promise of ultimate usefulness of no common degree. His pulpit labours were distinguished by clearness and fidelity, and were frequently highly effective. He had not been long in India, however, when his health failed, and after he had suffered severely for some time, a change to a more genial climate was recommended as the only means likely to promote his recovery. He embarked accordingly, but instead of getting better became worse; and, notwithstanding everything that could be done for him, he died at sea on the 18th of March, 1841. His remains were committed to the great deep, "in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life," in that day when "the sea shall give up the dead that are in it." He was graciously supported in his last illness; and in taking his final leave of one of his brethren, he said with respect to his spiritual state, "All is right."

Jesse Wheelock

Was a candidate for the Wesleyan ministry in 1837, and received an appointment to a Mission Station in Nova Scotia. He was an excellent and promising young man; but he had not laboured long when the failure of his health obliged him to retire from the active work; and, whilst his friends were enter-

taining hope of his recovery, he was removed to the "better country." He was a useful man ; and as he lived, so he died, a witness of the power of God to save. He passed to his reward in heaven on the evening of the 18th of May, 1841. He had frequently during the day prayed for the coming of his Lord ; and a short time before he breathed his last, he expressed his firm hope of eternal happiness through the merits of Christ ; whose gracious promise, "I will come again and receive you unto Myself ; that where I am, there ye may be also," he quoted whilst passing through the valley of the shadow of death.

Andrew Taylor

Was one of the many zealous and successful Missionaries raised up in Ireland. He was admitted into the Wesleyan ministry and appointed to a Circuit by the Irish Conference in 1796. He laboured as a Missionary in some of the wildest and most neglected parts of his native land for the long period of thirty-six years, and was made the means of salvation to many. He was exposed to much suffering, but "endured hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." During the Irish rebellion, in 1798, he was made a prisoner by a party of rebels, and was confined in the gaol of Wexford, at the time of the dreadful massacre on the bridge in that town, and was more than once on the point of being taken out to execution ; but God touched the heart of one of the bloodiest of the murderers, and saved the life of His servant. Mr. Taylor was kept in suspense until the defeat of the rebels on Vinegar Hill enabled the King's troops to proceed to Wexford, and release the persons who were imprisoned in the gaol. By this providential interposition he was set at liberty ; and he resumed his labours with unabated fidelity and zeal. In 1832, his health having failed, he became a Supernumerary, and shortly afterwards removed to Canada, where he continued to labour as his strength would permit as long as he lived. His death, which occurred in 1841, was impressively sudden. He had retired to rest in his usual health ; but it was found in the morning that he had fallen asleep to awake no more until the morning of the resurrection.

William Thackwray

Nobly offered his services as a Missionary for Western Africa, notwithstanding the unhealthy character of the climate. He arrived at Cape Coast on the 1st of February, 1841 ; but he had scarcely been three months in the country when he was smitten down by fever. He died at Anamabu, on the 4th of June, after an illness of eight days. He was a young man of amiable disposition and manners, and devoted himself fully to God. During the short period of his residence on the coast he endeared himself to all who knew him, and his early removal was sincerely mourned by an affectionate people.

William Redfern

Was accepted at the Conference of 1837 as a candidate for the Missionary work. He was at once admitted to the Theological Institution. He had enjoyed its advantages, however, only for a few months when the call for Missionaries was so great that he was sent to the island of Jamaica. He was honoured to commence a new Station at Grand Cayman, where he laboured with considerable success until he was removed to the Black River Circuit. There he found the people in a very neglected and degraded state ; but by his energetic efforts he gathered large congregations, and was made the means of spiritual good to many. In an unfinished letter, addressed to the Missionary Secretaries, found among his papers after his death, and written just two months before that mournful event, he gives an interesting account of his labours, and shows the great need of chapel accommodation for the crowds that assemble together. He then makes mention of the locality of the Station as follows : " There is a great deal of morass in this neighbourhood, which makes it, in the wet season, unhealthy. I have had two attacks of fever since the wet season commenced ; but, by the blessing of God, I am recovered and able to attend to my appointments." A third attack of fever proved fatal, and the devoted young Missionary died happy in God, on the 15th of July, 1841.

Charles Walden

Volunteered his services for Western Africa, at a time when labourers were much required. He proceeded to Cape Coast in December, 1840, and entered upon his labours with a pleasing prospect of success. Writing to the Missionary Committee in London about three months after his arrival, he says: "I am thankful to my Heavenly Father for the continued good health granted to me since I left England. I was thus enabled to assist my brethren occasionally in their affliction, and to conduct more frequently our public religious services, in which I greatly delight. With profound attention hundreds of the redeemed sons and daughters of Africa listen to the word of life, etc." Soon after writing this letter he passed hopefully through the seasoning fever, and was beginning to recover when, through premature exposure to the sun, he had a relapse which proved fatal. He died on the 29th of July, 1841, just five months after he had landed in Africa.

John Cameron

Was a native of Scotland. He was appointed as a Missionary to the West Indies in 1833. He, as well as the present writer, was one of eighteen additional Missionaries sent out by the Committee that year with a view to help to prepare the Negro slaves for their approaching emancipation. He embarked with several other brethren on board the ship "Glaphyra," bound for Antigua, in the month of December; but the wind proved contrary, and the vessel came to anchor on the Mother Bank between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, where she remained for several weeks until the weather became more favourable. During that time the Missionaries were kindly entertained by the friends at Ryde, where they landed. It was there that I became personally acquainted with Mr. Cameron on Saturday, the 1st of February, 1834, when my wife and I went on shore from the ship "Underwood," bound for Demerara, but likewise detained by contrary winds. We spent a happy week together, and, on the 8th, the *wind having* become fair, the vessels weighed anchor. The

"Glaphyra" reached her destination in safety. Mr. Cameron's first Station in the West Indies was the island of Nevis, where he spent three years, and was made very useful. There also he suffered affliction. In a long letter which I received from him, dated February 8th, 1836, among other things he says: "For nine days and nights I suffered the most acute pain from the effects of the epidemic fever with which I was attacked. At one time I was all but gone, and did not expect to live out the day. My Station being in the country, I was very lonely. After the fever had left me for a little, I was very anxious for some one to read to me a few verses of the 'Good Book;' but my servant could not read. I then thought of the Negro boys in my school, but they were all at home, and my teacher was down with the same fever. This was my last resort; and when I could not read myself, nor get any one to do it for me, I remember covering my face with a sheet and crying out, 'O for a Christian friend!'"

Mr. Cameron's next Station was Antigua, where he laboured for two years with acceptance and success. The letters I received from him during this period were of the most cheering character, and showed how thoroughly he was devoted to his work. He was next appointed to Dominica,—an island noted for its sickly climate. There his labours were crowned with abundant success; and there also, in the mysterious Providence of God, he was called away in the midst of his usefulness. Having suffered much for twelve days and nights, he died in peace on the 22nd of September, 1841, in the thirty-fourth year of his age and the eighth of his ministry. Mr. Cameron was a man of strong understanding and clear judgment, combined with much natural caution and self-control, a thorough student, reading the Scriptures in the original, and fairly versed in logic and natural philosophy. He was a faithful Minister and an affectionate friend; a devoted husband and a loving father. He was honoured in having a son to succeed him in the work he loved so well, who is well known as a Missionary in the colony Natal, where he has laboured for several years in the same spirit of self-sacrificing zeal which animated his sainted sire.

Wilson Lofthouse

Received an appointment as a Missionary to Jamaica in the year 1836. His first Station was Ramble, afterwards called Mount Ward, about seventeen miles from Montego Bay ; and as it was a comparatively new sphere of labour, he and his devoted wife had to put up with many inconveniences until the work became fully established. The building occupied as a Mission-house and chapel had once been a smith's forge, and was known in the neighbourhood by the undignified name of "the shop." It was quite inadequate to the purpose of the Mission ; but arrangements were soon made for the erection of a new chapel. The spirit in which Mr. Lofthouse entered upon his work will appear from a brief extract from his first letter to the Missionary Committee in London, under date of March 18th, 1837. After an interesting account of the Station and people he says : "I have now been here four weeks, and trust I am daily increasing in gratitude to God, Who has called me to the most delightful, as well as important, work. My time is fully occupied. On the Sabbath when at home I have little cessation from active employment after six o'clock in the morning until eight in the evening. On Monday evening I catechize the children and adults ; on Tuesday I preach ; on Wednesday I preach, or meet some of our own people for the purpose of singing ; on Thursday I hold our usual Prayer-meeting, when I read the Scriptures and exhort ; on Friday I meet the Leaders ; and on Saturday evening I meet the male adult Bible Class, and Mrs. Lofthouse meets the female Class at the same hour. With regard to our health I am thankful to say that we are as well as we expected to be ; and, by the blessing of God, I can go through my labour without feeling that distressing languor which I apprehended."

The last Station occupied by Mr. Lofthouse was Savannah-la-Mar, where he was exceedingly useful. Exercising his ministry at a time when the poor Negroes were just emerging into freedom after their long night of bondage, he threw himself into the work with all his might, and the blessing of God attended his efforts. In a subsequent communication, referring to a newly

formed out-Station, he says : " I have succeeded in begging two acres of land, commanding a view of an extensive and populous district, and have put up a small shed. The three members I began with in March have increased to twenty-three ; and I hope soon to have a good Society." Whilst thus exerting himself for the extension of the work and forming plans of future usefulness, the devoted Missionary was cut down by an attack of malignant fever. The affliction sometimes deprived him of the full use of his mental powers ; but during his lucid intervals he expressed a calm and settled confidence in God. He died on the 10th of October, 1841.

John Callaway

Was converted to God at the early age of thirteen, when he joined the Wesleyan Methodist Society and made an open profession of religion. In 1815, he received an appointment as a Missionary to Ceylon. On the 20th of December he embarked on board the "Eclipse" in company with the Rev. Messrs. B. Shaw, S. Broadbent, E. Jackson and R. Carver ; but the vessel being not quite ready to sail the Mission party returned to Gravesend, where they remained till the 22nd, when they went on board again and commenced their voyage. The wind was so boisterous and contrary that the ship put into Dungeness, where she remained for seven days without any communication with the shore. On the 30th the anchor was weighed again, and the ship proceeded on her voyage. In writing home when off Cape Finisterre, Mr. Callaway says : " It affords me pleasure to state that we have every prospect of a comfortable and speedy voyage. The vessel sails remarkably well, and the captain does all in his power to promote our convenience." After touching at Madeira, St. Jago, Rio Janeiro, and the Cape of Good Hope, according to arrangement, the good ship "Eclipse" reached Ceylon in safety on the 14th of May.

Mr. Callaway's first Station was Matura, concerning which he makes the following observations in a letter to his friend Mr. Worth under date of January 7th, 1817 : " I have been at this Station about two months. It was first occupied by brother Erskine, who, on account of ill health, removed to Galle, where

he continues this year. My appointment, I am happy to say, exactly agrees with my views and wishes ; as I am in a situation where I can attend to my various duties without interruption. Matura is really a delightful spot ; our house is near the sea, which, through the day, affords the most refreshing breeze. The views in the neighbourhood are remarkably grand. A fine navigable river extends a great way into the country. There are very few Europeans here ; so that my labours are almost exclusively devoted to the Singhalese, and to persons born in this country, who are generally in a state of extreme spiritual destitution."

The spheres of labour subsequently occupied by Mr. Callaway in Ceylon were Galle and Colombo, where he was also made very useful. In addition to a faithful discharge of his ministerial duties he distinguished himself by diligence in acquiring the Singhalese language, and by the preparation for the press of various elementary works, some of which were the first of the kind ever printed in that country, and have been extensively used. After spending about ten years in Ceylon, his health failing, Mr. Callaway returned to England, and laboured faithfully in the home work, often exerting himself beyond his strength. He studied the Holy Scriptures in their original languages, was an able Divine and a very instructive Preacher. His character was unblemished and his piety sincere. With many other amiable qualities he exemplified the most steadfast and unalterable friendship. He was much esteemed by his brethren in the ministry and the people among whom he laboured both at home and abroad. His health at length entirely failed, and after suffering for some time he died in peace at Banbury on the 23rd of November, 1841, in the forty-eighth year of his age and the twenty-sixth of his ministry.

Charles Bates

"Was converted to God in early life, and entered upon the work of the Christian ministry with a strong desire for the salvation of his fellow-men." His zeal and earnestness were strikingly proved by the manner in which he laboured as a *Missionary* in Newfoundland, the field to which he was appointed

in 1824. Writing from Bonavista, on the 5th of December, 1826, he says: "Notwithstanding all discouragements, it appears that the Lord is indeed among us, and many are seeking a further work of grace upon their souls. Our Prayer-meetings, both in the chapel, and in the different friends' houses, are well attended; and the artless simplicity of expression, and the fervent and becoming manner in which they who engage in prayer address the Almighty, show that their attainments in Christian holiness are not to be despised. I regularly attend all the Prayer-meetings, both on week evenings and on Sunday mornings, when I am not at the other end of the Circuit; and, I bless the Lord, I find my duty my delight, and am well rewarded, as also when meeting one or other of the Classes."

After labouring in different Circuits in Newfoundland for about ten years, Mr. Bates was removed in 1834 to the West Indies. His first Station was Antigua, where his efforts to win souls for Christ, and build up believers in the faith and hope of the Gospel, were blessed to the good of many. He was next appointed to St. Kitt's, where he took an active part with his brethren in striving to prepare the Negro population more fully for the enjoyment of the freedom which was just dawning upon them. Writing to the Missionary Committee from Sandy Point, on the 15th of October, 1838, after giving an interesting account of the state of the work of God, and of the happy change in the civil condition of the people, he concludes as follows: "I hope it is not saying too much when I say, that this island is in a fair way for doing well, politically and religiously, as we have a Governor who watches over the rights and privileges of the emancipated Negroes with unwearied assiduity, and is exceedingly anxious that equal justice should be administered to all, whatever may be the colour of their skin or their condition in life."

Mr. Bates's last sphere of Missionary labour was Tortola and the Virgin Islands, where he was much engaged in the erection, repairs and enlargement of chapels, which had been thrown down or injured by a hurricane a few years before his arrival. To raise the means for this important work as far as possible on the spot, he convened meetings of labourers and succeeded in prompting them to noble efforts of zeal and liberality. He also superintended the works alluded to with untiring perseverance,

in addition to his regular ministerial labours. It is to be feared that in these exertions he over-taxed his strength ; for in the midst of his toils and plans of usefulness he died of yellow fever, at Tortola, on the 16th of December, 1841, in the eighteenth year of his Missionary ministry. Just before his departure he said, " I am on the Rock, Christ Jesus. I cleave to God ; " and he often repeated these lines :

" Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy-seat of God
For ever doth for sinners plead,
For *me*, even for *my* soul was shed."

Joseph Orton

Was appointed as a Missionary to Jamaica in the year 1826, and laboured in the Falmouth and Montego Bay Circuits, till he was interrupted by the violent persecution which broke out against the Missionaries and their work. In 1828 he was imprisoned along with the Rev. Isaac Whitehouse, another Wesleyan Missionary, in the common gaol of St. Ann's, by the magistrates of that parish, for the "crime" of preaching the Gospel without a licence trammelled by such conditions as they thought proper to impose, which were in fact framed designedly to embarrass the Missionaries in their work. Writing from his place of confinement to the Committee in London, on the 25th of August, after giving a minute account of the incarceration of himself and his companion in tribulation, he says : " I have soon been called to realize by painful experience the deleterious effects of confinement in the wretched situation I have been placed in. Ever since my imprisonment I have been in an indifferent state of health ; having obtained scarcely any rest by night, during the whole time. On Friday last I was obliged to take to my bed, if such it may be called ; my sickness gradually increasing, so as to excite the apprehension of my friends for my safety." The case was immediately brought before His Honour the Chief Judge who gave orders for the discharge of the Missionaries from confinement on the ground of their *having been illegally committed* ; and after being imprisoned

for about a fortnight they were set at liberty. The state of Mr. Orton's health was such as to render it necessary for him soon afterwards to return to England. During the short period of his residence in Jamaica he possessed the affection and confidence of his ministerial brethren and the love of the people among whom he laboured, and his name was long remembered as that of a faithful and devoted Missionary.

Soon after his return to England Mr. Orton received an appointment to Australia, where he occupied several colonial Stations with credit to himself and advantage to the Societies and congregations. The prominent and important part which he took as Chairman of the District in laying the foundation of some of the most important Stations in "the Southern World" will appear from the following sentences extracted from a letter which he addressed to the Committee in London from Hobart Town on the 29th of June, 1838: "From the Minutes of our special District Meeting you would be informed of the arrangements for my visit to Sydney for the purpose of endeavouring to interest the New South Wales Government in behalf of the Port Phillip Mission. We hope thus, in addition to other advantages, to secure an eligible situation and obviate any inconvenience that might otherwise arise from parties who may have located there without permission. Feeling interested, as I do, in this new Mission which you have been pleased to place for the present under my care, I was very anxious to proceed at once to Port Phillip, to assist in commencing the important undertaking; but the nature of my Circuit duties imperatively demanded my personal attention for a time. It has eventually been arranged, that Mr. Tuckfield proceed thither without delay, and commence operations. He and Mrs. Tuckfield will therefore embark to-morrow for their destination." Who could have imagined that in the short space of thirty-seven years from that date the city of Melbourne would have become what it is to-day, the head of a Methodist Conference? This, Mr. Orton did not live to see. Having determined to return to his native land, he embarked in a feeble state of health. The severe weather which the ship encountered in doubling Cape Horn, occasioned an aggravation of his complaint, and probably hastened his decease. He died at sea on the 30th of April, 1842, full of confidence in God, and holy triumph over death. His body was committed to

the great deep, in sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection when the sea shall give up her dead.

John Taylor

Was born at Rochdale, where he became eminent as a Christian and a Local Preacher among the Wesleyan Methodists. Having been recommended to Dr. Coke, who then superintended the foreign Missions, as a suitable person for the work, he was appointed, in 1798, as a Missionary to the Negroes in the West Indies. He laboured faithfully and with considerable success for many years and with fewer interruptions from sickness or other untoward circumstances than were generally experienced by his brethren at that early period. At length, however, an impression was made upon his vigorous constitution by the climate, and by the hardships which he had to endure, which ultimately led to his return to England. Writing to Dr. Coke from St. Vincent's on the 18th of May, 1803, Mr. Taylor says: "I think I shall like this island very well, and I trust we shall have a revival of religion. But the wretched habitation we have to dwell in is but fourteen feet by eleven, and the chamber not near so large, and neither the roof, nor the windows, nor the door, will keep out the rain: as for the kitchen, you would hardly think it good enough to put coals in, in England. And unless the chapel get a thorough repair, it will soon be as bad as the rest of the premises. I beg, dear Sir, you will write as soon as possible, and tell me if you can spare anything towards the erection of a new habitation: for one we must have, or I fear both Mr Sturgeon and I shall get our deaths." And yet in the midst of these difficulties and privations the good work continued to prosper. Writing in the early part of the following year the devoted Missionary says: "We have added nearly three hundred members to the Society since my arrival. On Sunday last it was my turn to go to the windward part of the island, where we had a Lovefeast. It was a glorious time. Here we have about a thousand in Society and only a Negro house to meet them in, so that crowds of people are obliged to stand out of doors exposed to the burning rays of a vertical sun. To this place we have to ride about sixteen miles, and the heat is often so exces-

sive that our faces are as red as raw flesh, and feel as if they were ready to burst. Add to this that we have to ride on the edges of precipices, scores of yards high, just over the sea, which breaks on the rocks with a tremendous roar. Yet, what are these difficulties if the Lord strengthen us to go through them; and if hundreds of these poor Africans get safe to heaven?"

In 1808 Mr. Taylor's state of health obliged him to return to England, and he thenceforth laboured in the home work, till 1827, when he was no longer able to discharge the duties of the itinerant ministry. He spent his last years in prayerful retirement, looking for the call of his Lord, and grateful for the attention of his Christian friends. He died in peace on the 28th of May, 1842, in the eighty-first year of his age and the fifty-fourth of his ministry, a remarkable instance of humble endurance and faithful ministerial toil for a lengthened period both at home and abroad.

Henry J. Wyatt

Offered himself as a Missionary for Western Africa at a time when many had fallen under the influence of the climate, and when therefore additional labourers were urgently required. Having received an appointment to the Gold Coast District, he embarked in company with the Rev. Thomas Rowland in good health and spirits. They reached their destination in safety on the 4th of February, 1842; but when he had been in the country about two months he fell a victim to the African fever. When he had partially recovered from his "seasoning," he was seized with epilepsy, and in a few hours fell asleep in Jesus, on the 6th of April, deeply regretted by all who knew him. The fervour of his spirit and the fulness of his devotedness to God had excited the hope of his extensive usefulness among the oppressed and degraded Africans, whose deep wrongs he had so long felt, and for whose salvation he had fervently prayed; but he was thus called to rest from his labour in the morning of his day.

Thomas Rowland

Had been favoured to spend two years in the Wesleyan Theological Institution, Hoxton, when he offered his services for

Western Africa. He sailed for Cape Coast in company with Mr. Wyatt, whose death he deeply mourned. Having followed the remains of his beloved colleague to the grave, Mr. Rowland set out on his journey to Kumasi, the capital of Ashanti, to which Station he had been appointed about the middle of May. He was taken ill on the road ; but he reached his destination, and had so far rallied as to awaken hopes of his ultimate recovery. But he entered into the joy of the Lord at Kumasi, on the 10th of July, 1842, and was the first Christian Missionary who found a grave in that blood-stained heathen city.

John Waterhouse.

Yorkshire has furnished the Methodist Connexion with a larger number of Ministers and Missionaries than any other county. One of them was the Rev. John Waterhouse. He was born in the neighbourhood of Leeds in the year 1789. In early life, having tasted that the Lord is gracious, he shortly afterwards began to recommend the Gospel to others. His early efforts having been successful, he offered himself for the work of the ministry, and was received on trial by the Conference of 1809. For twenty-nine years he laboured in his native land ; and during that period he had the affection and the confidence of his brethren. He occupied some of the most important Circuits in the kingdom, and his ministry was earnest, able, and successful. He was well acquainted with the economy of Wesleyan Methodism, and as a Superintendent and as Chairman of a District he administered its discipline with a measure of wisdom and fidelity which won for him the esteem and confidence of both Ministers and people.

At an early period of his public life, he had a strong conviction that it was his duty to offer himself for the foreign work ; but it was not until the Conference of 1838 that his way appeared to be fully open ; and then he cheerfully left his native land to encounter the toils and dangers of a Christian Missionary. He was appointed to the office of General Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions in Australia and Polynesia. On reaching his destination he took up his abode with his family at Hobart Town, *Tasmania*, and at once gave himself to his high calling. In the



JOHN RUSSELL, ESQ.

discharge of his important official duties he had to take long and perilous journeys, both by sea and by land, visiting the various Stations in New Zealand, the Friendly and Fiji Islands, and elsewhere. He was often in danger and discomfort, but he trusted in God for protection and "endured hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ," exhibiting to his junior brethren an example of zeal, diligence, and perseverance worthy of their imitation. He had been thus usefully employed only between three and four years when in one of his journeys in Tasmania he was exposed to unusually heavy rains. This brought on a long and severe illness which resulted in his death. During his protracted affliction he manifested the most exemplary patience and resignation to the will of God, relying with a steadfast faith on the Lord Jesus Christ. As he drew near the closing scene he exclaimed, "Jesus is precious!" For a short time his mind seemed to be occupied with care about the Missionary work, and he then exclaimed with all his remaining strength, "Missionaries! Missionaries!" He died in the Lord, at Hobart Town, on the 30th of March, 1842, in the fifty-third year of his age and the thirty-third of his ministry.

Peter Sleep

Was a humble, plodding, persevering Missionary in British North America, who laboured for a few years in the New Brunswick District, and then passed away to his eternal rest. He was one of a large class of earnest labourers in the Lord's vineyard of whom little is heard or known beyond the immediate circles of their hallowed toil, but whose "record is on high." It was said of him by his brethren in the ministry that "he possessed respectable talents; and prosecuted the work of a Missionary with zeal and diligence." He died in great peace, of an inflammatory fever induced by over-exertion, on the 8th of August, 1842, in the thirty-ninth year of his age and the eighth of his ministry, leaving a widow and two little children to mourn their loss, and to prove that "a Father of the fatherless, and a Judge of the widow, is God in His holy habitation."

Samuel M'Masters,

Having been brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in early life, and called to preach the Gospel in Nova Scotia, his native province, was received into the Methodist ministry there in the year 1836. He acted as Missionary to the scattered settlers in the land of his birth; but he had laboured only six years when he was called to his heavenly home. He finished his course in peace on the 6th of October, 1842. Mr. M'Masters is described by those who knew him personally as "a man of sound judgment and great integrity."

William Cross.

Few Missionaries have passed through more trials and difficulties, or laboured with greater zeal and diligence, than the Rev. William Cross. At the age of twenty-one he was convinced of sin under the preaching of the Rev. Thomas Edwards, and he forthwith sought and found peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ. He began to call sinners to repentance soon afterwards; and, having offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, he received an appointment to the Friendly Islands in 1827. When he and his devoted wife arrived at Tonga the natives were just emerging from that long night of heathen darkness in which they had been involved; and they laboured to instruct them in the doctrines and principles of Christianity. Long before a printing press arrived from England, Mr. Cross, assisted by his wife, had translated portions of Scripture, and composed school-books in the native language; and, with great pains, had multiplied copies in manuscript for the instruction of the people. Nor were their labours in vain in the Lord. They had the pleasure of seeing multitudes learn to read the word of God, and not a few were brought to a saving knowledge of the truth.

In the month of January, 1832, when proceeding from Tonga to Vavau, to commence a new Station, Mr. and Mrs. Cross suffered shipwreck. The large canoe in which they sailed foundered

in a storm, and was dashed to pieces, when Mrs. Cross and eighteen natives perished in the waves. The survivors were floated to a desolate island on a raft which they managed to form of the broken pieces of the vessel, and were rescued after much suffering. The body of Mrs. Cross was afterwards washed on shore; and when the bereaved Missionary had laid it in its lonely grave in a land of strangers, he embarked again for his appointed Station and arrived there in safety, and pursued his labours alone, yet not alone, for he trusted in Him who has said, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

In the year 1835, in company with the Rev. David Cargill, Mr. Cross undertook the arduous task of commencing a Mission in Fiji. Among the barbarous and cannibal inhabitants of that group, he continued successfully to preach the word of life, after it had become apparent that a removal to a more healthy climate was necessary for the restoration of his declining health. But so strong was his sense of the necessity of the Mission, and so unwilling was he to reduce the little band which was labouring in the extensive field which had been thrown open to their exertions, that he remained at what appeared to him to be the post of duty, until he was attacked by dysentery; which, in his feeble state, speedily put an end to his work and his life. Mr. Cross was characterized by ardent zeal and great conscientiousness in the performance of the various duties of a Christian Missionary. He entered into rest on the 15th of October, 1842, leaving a noble example of patience under suffering and entire devotion to the cause of God among the heathen.

Samuel A. Shipman

Was the son of a Missionary, and manifested, at an early period, a laudable measure of the Missionary spirit. He was born at Falmouth, Jamaica, on the 2nd of November, 1818, the year in which his father commenced his labours in that part of the island. From a child he was amiable, courteous, and conscientious; and the recollection of the fact that he was a Minister's son operated considerably in restraining him from the sins and follies so common in youth. Although he had been trained in the knowledge and fear of God, his conversion was

striking and manifest ; and he entered on the work of the ministry under motives of the most pure and honourable character. His preaching was solid rather than showy, discovering correct and close thinking. His style was chaste, simple, and clear ; and his discourses were marked by zeal and energy. He had studied the doctrines of the Gospel ; and he paid great attention to pulpit preparation, wishing not to give to God's Church that which cost himself nothing.

From the commencement of his career Mr. Shipman expressed a decided preference for the foreign work. His desire was not merely to be employed as a Missionary, but to go to the heathen, and to those who needed the Gospel most. He wished to preach the Gospel in the regions in which Christ had not been named, and "not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to his hand." And no place came so near to his views as Ashanti and the Gold Coast ; and to that District he was accordingly appointed. The Station which fell to his lot was British Akrah, where there was a dense heathen population to be instructed, and where several native candidates for the ministry were put under his charge for training. He deeply felt the responsibility of his position, and devoted himself to his work with zeal and diligence. He was much encouraged both in preaching the Gospel and in teaching the young men committed to his care. He also translated the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and a part of the Conference Catechism into the Fanti language. Before long, however, he fell under the power of malignant fever. That which most depressed him during his last illness was the fear that he should be obliged to leave his interesting charge ; and when, on the day preceding his death, his symptoms appeared more favourable, he was delighted with the thought that he might yet be permitted to remain in Africa. There was soon a change for the worse, and he finished his course on the 22nd of February, 1843, in the twenty-fifth year of his age and the third of his public labours. His last words were :

"In death, as life, be Thou my Guide,
And save me, Who for me hast died."

Edward Cook

Desired to be a Missionary to the heathen ; and in the year 1831 he received an appointment to Southern Africa, where additional labourers were very much required. He embarked with a party of Missionaries and their wives for the Cape of Good Hope, on the 14th of January, 1832, and having reached his destination in safety, he was usefully employed for some time in ministering to the English congregations in Cape Town and neighbouring Stations. In the course of the following year a Missionary Meeting was held at Simon's Town, when touching reference was made to Great Namaqualand, which had remained without a Missionary ever since the murder of the Rev. William Threlfall and his companions. This produced such a feeling in the meeting that James Nisbett, Esq., a pious and devoted officer of the East India Company, who occupied the chair, generously offered a liberal contribution towards the establishment of a Wesleyan Mission in that country ; and Mr. Cook, with characteristic enthusiasm, offered himself as the Missionary. The result was that the Mission was undertaken forthwith, and Mr. Cook was appointed to the work.

The young Missionary and his wife set off in an ox-waggon for their distant Station. On reaching Khamiesberg, they halted till they could ascertain the state of the country beyond. Writing from that place to the Missionary Committee in London, under date of June 14th, 1834, Mr. Cook says : " Mr. Edwards and I have visited Great Namaqualand for the purpose of ascertaining the disposition of the people, and seeking a suitable situation for our object. In reference to the former, through various reports which we had heard previously to our setting out, we were in some doubt ; but our apprehensions were soon happily removed. We had not gone one stage in the part of the country belonging to the *Bundle Zwarts*, the tribe to which we first intended to direct our attention, before we met Abram the Chief, and a number of men, all mounted on ox-back. Our meeting was providential and highly interesting. We were quite in doubt which way we should proceed ; and Abram, from his own account, was on a journey to Khamiesberg to try to get

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William Fish

God in early life, and entered upon the work
1785, and laboured in Circuits at home for
the request of Dr. Coke he left this count-

a Missionary, whom he said he was so impatient to obtain that he could wait no longer."

With this Chief and his people at the Warm Bath, thenceforth called Nisbett Bath in honour of the friend and patron of the Mission, Mr. and Mrs. Cook settled; and they were made instrumental in commencing a good work which has continued to the present day. In 1853 I had an opportunity of visiting the Station, and rejoiced to see very evident proofs of the power of the Gospel. Mr. Cook laboured in Great Namaqualand for nearly nine years with great success, and was arranging plans for the extension of the work to Damaraland, to which country he had paid a visit of observation, when his health entirely failed. With the hope of obtaining relief, he set out for Cape Town, accompanied by Mrs. Cook and two or three native servants; but on reaching the banks of the Orange River he was found too weak and exhausted to proceed any farther. There he became weaker and weaker, and, surrounded by a few Christian natives and his distressed partner, he resigned his happy spirit into the hands of God, on the 7th of March, 1843, in the thirty-seventh year of his age and the twelfth of his ministry. Having returned with the remains of her beloved husband to the Station for interment, the bereaved widow wended her lonely way to her friends in Cape Town.

David Cargill

Was brought to a saving knowledge of Christ under the Wesleyan ministry whilst pursuing his studies at the University of Aberdeen. In the year 1832 he was appointed as a Missionary to the Friendly Islands; where it pleased the great Head of the Church to crown his endeavours with abundant success. He was associated with the Rev. William Cross in the establishment of a Mission in Fiji, where he laboured faithfully, and suffered much privation and hardship, until personal and family affliction rendered his removal necessary. Having visited England, he was re-appointed to the Mission in the Friendly Islands, with the special view that his talents and learning might be rendered subservient to the important object of securing a *correct translation* of the Sacred Scriptures into the native lan-

guage. The expectations entertained were, however, painfully cut off by his sudden death, which took place at Vavau, on the 25th of April, 1843.

Thomas Hardy

Was received on probation for the Wesleyan ministry at the Conference of 1840. He was appointed, in the first instance, to the home work, in which he had laboured for about two years, when he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen. He accordingly received an appointment to the island of Jamaica, for which place he embarked in the early part of 1843. He appears to have been in feeble health from the beginning, and the heat of the tropics proved too much for him. He died of pulmonary consumption, on the 6th of May, shortly after he landed in Kingston. In his affliction he manifested great Christian fortitude and calm resignation to the Divine will. His end was peace. He was twenty-nine years of age when the Master called him.

Philip Chapman

Was permitted to labour only a few years, but he was made the instrument of much spiritual good to the people. He was appointed to Jamaica in the year 1836, having previously spent two years in the Theological Institution. He had a sound understanding, a ready utterance, and a kind heart. As a Preacher he was generally acceptable and useful, and he enjoyed in a high degree the confidence of his brethren and the affections of the people. His peaceful death took place on the 17th of May, 1843.

William Fish

Was brought to God in early life, and entered upon the work of the ministry in 1785, and laboured in Circuits at home for several years. At the request of Dr. Coke he left this country

in 1792, for Jamaica, where he was associated with men who suffered "bonds and imprisonments" for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, and faithfully and judiciously assisted in laying the foundation of the great work of God which has since been so successfully carried on in that island. Some idea may be formed of the trials and the success which attended the labours of Mr. Fish and those who were associated with him, from a few sentences taken from a letter which he addressed to Dr. Coke, under date of the 20th of May, 1803. After giving a circumstantial account of opposition and persecution, he says: "In the meantime, thank God! our congregations in Kingston are rather increased than diminished; and the Society, during the last six months, is augmented from four hundred and thirty-five to five hundred and fifteen. Most of our Morant Bay friends continue steadfast, although in the midst of foes and deprived of the means of grace. Those who are able do not think it too much to travel thirty-one miles to Kingston, to enjoy the ordinances of the Gospel. The situation of the Baptists is truly deplorable. We have one place open and two Missionaries allowed to work; but they, as to public ordinances, are altogether destitute."

After labouring incessantly for twelve years in the wasting climate of the West Indies, Mr. Fish found his health so seriously impaired that a change was necessary. He therefore returned to England in 1805, where he continued to labour in various Circuits until 1816, when he became a Supernumerary, and retired to the island of Guernsey. There he diligently employed his remaining strength in preaching and visiting the sick, and performing other pastoral duties until prevented by "age and feebleness extreme." "His piety was deep; his views of Gospel truth were clear and convincing; his manner was affectionate and winning; and his labours were owned of God in the conversion of souls. The doctrines of the atonement of Christ, and the justification of a sinner by faith in the blood of Jesus, and the enjoyment of personal holiness, were subjects on which he delighted to dwell. He was highly respected and beloved by those who knew him; he had not only had 'good report' of 'men,' but also 'of the truth itself.'" For some time previous to *his* decease he was much debilitated and afflicted; and, conscious of *approaching* dissolution, he calmly and patiently waited for the

coming of his Lord. He died on the 9th of August, 1843, in the eightieth year of his age and the fifty-seventh of his ministry.

John Brown, 3rd,

Was a young Minister of great promise, who, after a course of instruction at the Theological Institution, was appointed as a Missionary to the island of St. Christopher, in the West Indies, in 1841. He entered upon his work apparently in good health and spirits, and laboured faithfully in the word and doctrine till he was called to his heavenly rest. A tropical climate did not seem to agree with his constitution, and he was cut down in the midst of his days. He passed through a short but painful illness with resignation to the will of God. He was distinguished by deep piety and ardent love for the souls of men, combined with a sound discretion; and his memory was affectionately cherished by those who were favoured with his ministrations. He died in peace at Sandy Point, in the island of St. Christopher, on the 17th of September, 1843.

Arthur H. Steel

Was a native of Bermuda, where he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth by the instrumentality of the Wesleyan Ministry. Having been accepted as a candidate for the sacred office, he was appointed as a Missionary to the island of Nevis in the West Indies, by the Conference of 1843. He proceeded to his Station with a full determination to spend and be spent in the work of the Lord. He had laboured there only a few months, however, when he entered into the joy of his Lord. After a short affliction he died in the faith and hope of the Gospel, at Nevis, on the 3rd of October, 1843, at the early age of twenty-two.

Samuel Symons

Was a young Minister of extraordinary zeal and earnestness. Having offered himself as a Missionary to Western

Africa, and expressed a preference for that part of the Mission field, he was appointed accordingly. He arrived at St. Mary's, on the River Gambia, on the 20th of December, 1841. Soon afterwards he proceeded to Macarthy's Island, where he laboured with unwearied diligence, notwithstanding repeated attacks of fever, for more than two years. He also visited the newly formed out-Station of Ngabantang on the mainland; and it is believed he was made instrumental in the salvation of many souls. At length his excessive labours and the influence of the climate made a serious impression on his constitution. While making arrangements for a change for the benefit of his health, he was attacked with yellow fever, which terminated fatally in a few days. His end was peaceful and happy. Only a few minutes before he breathed his last, he requested his affectionate colleague to send his dying love to his father and mother, and tell them he did not regret that he had gone to Western Africa. He died at Macarthy's Island, on the 12th of January, 1844, in the thirtieth year of his age and the third of his ministry.

Benjamin Watkins

Was another zealous young Missionary who died in Western Africa shortly after his arrival. He arrived at Cape Coast with his devoted wife on the 23rd of January, 1843. About a fortnight afterwards Mrs. Watkins became ill; and she gradually grew weaker until she exchanged mortality for life on the 1st of March. The bereaved Missionary proceeded to his Station at British Akrah, and did his best to discharge the duties which devolved upon him in connection with the Mission and the Institution for the training of Native Teachers which was placed under his care. In this important position he laboured with much zeal and diligence for a while; but his course of useful labour was soon brought to a close. He had been about a year in the country when he was seized with malignant fever, and died while the vessel was preparing to sail by which he intended to leave for England with a view to the recovery of his health. His talents and general fitness for the Missionary work had given much promise of usefulness. He died in peace at British

Akrah, on the 7th of February, 1844, in the twenty-seventh year of his age and the second of his ministry.

Timothy Thompson Greaves

Also offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and received an appointment to Western Africa. He arrived at Cape Coast on the 12th of December, 1843, and soon afterwards proceeded to his appointed Station at British Akrah. His talents were of a plain but useful character, and his preaching of that clear and simple type which Africans can best understand and appreciate. He addressed himself to his Missionary duties with zeal and diligence ; but he had scarcely commenced his labours when he also was prostrated by fever. He died in great peace on the 14th of July, 1844, in the twenty-seventh year of his age and the first of his ministry, after a residence of only seven months in the country.

Richard Davis

Was brought to the saving knowledge of Christ at a very early age. He had a clear Scriptural experience and respectable talents, and his ministrations were crowned with the Divine blessing. He was appointed to the island of Jamaica in 1838. His untiring efforts in the Redeemer's cause secured him the esteem of his brethren and the respect and affection of the people in every Circuit in which he laboured. His exertions to win souls to Christ, and to build up the Church of God, were too great for his physical strength, and the extreme heat of the climate, to say nothing about domestic affliction and other trials ; and his health failed at a comparatively early period. But when the Master called him he was found ready. He had been bereaved of an affectionate wife on the 14th of July, and never seemed fully to recover from the shock. He died in peace at Morant Bay, on the 1st of November, 1844, in the thirty-second year of his age and the seventh of his ministry. His memory will long be cherished by his fellow-helpers in the truth.

Francis Taylor

Was a young Minister of frail constitution, but of promising talents. He entered the home work in 1836, when he was appointed to a Circuit in Scotland. After three years he offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and was accordingly appointed to the Bechuana Mission, in Southern Africa. He there gave promise of much usefulness; but his labours were brought to an early end. Instead of deriving that benefit from the genial climate of the southern hemisphere which he and his friends had anticipated, he soon became unfit for pastoral duty. His affliction was long and painful, but he bore it with exemplary patience. Nor did the certain prospect of dissolution alarm him. He thought of his approaching change with calm resignation to the will of God, and in firm reliance on Christ, and was graciously supported by a sense of the Divine presence and favour to the last. He died of pulmonary consumption, at Colesberg, on the 17th of November, 1844.

George Hole

Was one of the first students admitted into the Theological Institution at Hoxton when it was opened in 1836. His conduct there was circumspect and exemplary. He pursued his Christian course with consistency, and applied himself to his studies with diligence. His progress was encouraging; and from the beginning he gave good promise of becoming a faithful and useful Minister of our Lord Jesus Christ. That promise was fulfilled to a gratifying degree, during his short course. After labouring for some time in Continental India, in 1838 he was appointed to the North Ceylon District in place of the Rev. J. George who was returning to England. The Station chiefly occupied by Mr. Hole was Batticaloa, where he was made very useful both in superintending the Mission schools and in preaching to the heathen. Writing to the Committee from that place on the 4th of January, 1840, he says: "On Christmas Day I had the pleasure of baptizing six heathen lads, five of whom are

scholars in our Mission schools. This was done at the request of the lads themselves, and with the free consent of their parents. During the same journey I passed through a village I had not heard of before. I enquired of the inhabitants if they would like to have a school. They replied, they would be very thankful for one. I promised to send them a schoolmaster if they would provide a place: they engaged to do so. When the schoolmaster went no place could be found but the heathen temple. He commenced; and now eighty-one boys are taught every day, out of Christian books, in this heathen temple. All this shows that the natives are not so much attached to their system as they once were."

Mr. Hole was proceeding in his beloved work in this way, and was hoping for many more years of successful Missionary labour, when he died. His end came somewhat suddenly as he was on his way to Colombo with his wife and two children. He died on the 27th of February, 1845, at Parembau, and there he was interred on the following day in a land of strangers.

John Raine

Was an earnest warm-hearted Yorkshireman whose course of ministerial and Missionary labour was comparatively brief, but the results of which will appear in the great day of accounts. In 1834 he was appointed to labour as a Missionary among the settlers of Eastern Canada. There he was usefully employed for several years, leading sinners to Christ, and building up believers. In the prime of life and at the meridian of his day of toil, he was called by the Master of the vineyard to rest from his labours. He died in great peace, firmly trusting in his Redeemer, at the Mission-house in Melbourne, Canada, in the early part of 1845, in the forty-first year of his age and the eleventh of his ministry. His brethren who knew him well placed upon record the following testimony: "He was remarkably diligent in the improvement of his mind, and made great progress in the attainment of theological knowledge. He united with a modest unassuming deportment more than ordinary fervour of spirit in the discharge of his pastoral duties. He was an ardent lover of Wesleyan Methodism, a faithful colleague, and a holy useful Minister of the Gospel."

William Marshall

Entered upon his labours as a Missionary in Newfoundland in the year 1838. His course was short, but it was one of great activity and usefulness. He laboured for a time on the western shore of that bleak and dreary country, and for nearly four years was stationed in the Green Bay Circuit, where his zealous efforts were especially owned by God. By his incessant toils and exposure, he contracted an illness which brought his career to a sudden close. He preached only six days before his decease, closing his ministrations at the solemn hour of the last midnight of the year. He died in peace at Twillingate on the 9th of January, 1846, in the thirty-fifth year of his age and the eighth of his ministry. He was in labours more abundant, "instant in season and out of season." In the judgment of his brethren, excessive labour and privations injured his constitution and hastened his end.

James H. Wayte

Showed earnest zeal in the cause of Christ, in early life. Having enjoyed the benefit of the Theological Institution, he was appointed as a Missionary to Western Africa at his own request. To supply a vacancy in a case of emergency, he prepared at a few days' notice to embark for Sierra Leone, in company with Mr. and Mrs. Raston and Mr. Griffiths. They landed in Free Town on the 1st of December, 1845, and were delighted with the hearty welcome they received from the Missionaries and the people. After partaking of a cup of tea, they proceeded at once to the chapel, where Mr. Wayte opened his commission by preaching to a congregation of seven hundred of the sable sons and daughters of Ham. But his course of Missionary labour, thus auspiciously commenced, was destined soon to terminate. Immediately after returning from the funeral of Mrs. Raston, whose death was a severe shock to him, he was seized with a violent fever which terminated fatally within six weeks of the time of his arrival. Mr. Wayte died triumphantly happy in God at Sierra Leone, on the 16th of January, 1846, in

the twenty-fourth year of his age. Just before he died he repeated that beautiful stanza :

“Happy, if with my latest breath
I may but gasp His name,
Preach Him to all, and cry in death,
‘Behold, behold the Lamb!’”

John Anthoniez.

A goodly number of converted natives have been raised up at different times on the Wesleyan Mission Stations to preach the Gospel to their fellow-countrymen. One of the earliest of these was a Singhalese named John Anthoniez. He was born at Galle, on the 28th of August, 1793, and lived as a heathen till brought under the influence of Christianity. He was converted to God soon after the commencement of the Wesleyan Mission in the island of Ceylon, in 1815; and began almost immediately to call sinners to repentance, and to be zealous in all good works. After his appointment to the ministry, he continued in a pre-eminent manner to retain the confidence and esteem of his European brethren. He was a man of sincere piety and great simplicity of manners: his prayers and pulpit addresses were earnest, and were frequently attended by a powerful influence from above. He was faithful in the exercise of Church discipline, and continually sought opportunities of usefulness apart from his regular work. After labouring acceptably and usefully in various capacities, from that of school teacher to that of Assistant Missionary, for more than a quarter of a century, Mr. Anthoniez died in peace, somewhat suddenly, at Colombo, on the 24th of July, 1845, in the fifty-second year of his age and the twenty-seventh of his ministry. His brethren placed upon record the following pleasing testimony concerning him: “By his death, which was regretted by all classes at Colombo, where he had laboured with acceptance during a series of years, the Mission has lost an efficient agent, and the Church a Pastor who was in labours more abundant. His death was sudden; but during his life he witnessed a good confession, and ever appeared to maintain close communion with God. He is the first of our Assistant Missionaries in South Ceylon who has been called to his eternal reward.”

John S. Marsden.

The rigorous climate of the dreary North has been found trying to the health and constitution of Christian Missionaries, as well as the climate of the torrid zone ; and many zealous young men have found their strength and powers of endurance unequal to the contest which they had to wage. This was the case with the Rev. John S. Marsden. He was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in the year 1836, and entered on the work of the ministry in Western Canada in 1840. His zealous exertions for the promotion of the cause of God, and his urbanity of manners, greatly endeared him to those among whom it was his lot to labour. In travelling through the snow of a severe winter in very inclement weather, he contracted a disease which soon proved fatal. His last illness continued only ten days. During that period he enjoyed great peace of mind ; and he died in the full triumph of faith at Peterborough, Western Canada, on the 18th of September, 1845, in the thirty-third year of his age. His early removal was universally and deeply lamented by his brethren in the ministry, and by the people among whom he had laboured.

John Skivington

Was a devout and promising young Minister, who entered on the work in 1839. Having been appointed to New Zealand, he sailed in the "Triton" in company with several other brethren, who were going out to their respective Stations in the southern hemisphere. He entered upon his work in good health and spirits, and was honoured with a large amount of success. His piety and zeal carried him through difficulties of no ordinary magnitude ; and, although he did not possess those talents which are usually termed great, he was a good and faithful servant, whom the Master owned in the salvation of many. He was greatly beloved by the natives, among whom he was received as *a father* and a friend. By his brethren he was esteemed as a *man of God* and a faithful Missionary. His active and useful

career was cut short in a manner unexpected. He had performed a journey of twenty days in order to be present at the Auckland District Meeting, where he preached a useful sermon on the Wednesday, and died on the Sunday evening following, September 21st, 1845. His death was awfully sudden. He had gone with his host to the chapel; and, shortly after the sermon commenced, he fell down, and was carried into the vestry a dead man. His brethren could only weep over him; and seven natives of his charge, who had accompanied him through his long journey, wept also, and said, "Our father is gone to heaven: he has fulfilled his commission: but our sorrow is for his widow and child, and for ourselves, for we are now orphans. Where shall we look for another father and pastor?" Mr. Skivington, when thus suddenly called away, was in the thirty-first year of his age, and had exercised his useful ministry only six years. He was a native of the neighbourhood of Nottingham.

John Baker

Served his generation with great promptitude, energy, and zeal as a Minister and Missionary in different countries; and the history of his course is one of deep interest. He was born at Bideford, in Devonshire, in the year 1793. When about seventeen years of age he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth by means of the Wesleyan ministry. At the commencement of his religious course he had to encounter much opposition; but nothing could induce him to swerve from his fidelity. In the year 1818 he entered upon the duties of the Christian ministry. Burning with desire for the salvation of the heathen he offered himself for the foreign work, and was appointed to Western Africa at a time when several had fallen as victims of the unhealthy climate of that country.

Mr. Baker arrived at Sierra Leone, in company with Mr. Gillison, on the 14th of February, 1819. It was the holy Sabbath, and the young Missionaries proceeded from the ship to the chapel, where they opened their commission without delay; one of them preaching in the morning and the other in the evening to crowded and delighted congregations. They had laboured

together happily and successfully for six months when Mr. Gillison was carried off by African fever. Mr. Baker was himself ill when his colleague died ; but as soon as he was a little better he preached a funeral sermon for his departed brother, and endeavoured to nerve himself for the further prosecution of his important work. He thus expresses his sentiments when writing to the Missionary Committee in the month of November following : " I can assure you, my dear fathers, notwithstanding these dispensations of Divine Providence, I feel happy in my work, and am satisfied that I am in my providential place. The Lord makes me happy by the continual manifestation of His favour, and many of these dear people make me happy by their unblemished life and conversation. Glory be to God ! unworthy as I am of such an honour, He is pleased to make me useful." In January, 1821, on the arrival of additional Missionaries from England, Mr. Baker was at liberty to proceed to the Gambia, to unite with the Rev. John Morgan in the establishment of a new Mission, according to the appointment of the previous Conference. Both at Mandanaree and St. Mary's he did good service in the cause for a few months, until his health seriously failed. Then he removed to the West Indies by direction of the Missionary Committee. After labouring for a short time there and also in British North America without deriving material benefit to his health, he returned to England, and was thenceforth employed in the home work.

In his native land Mr. Baker was successively appointed to several important Circuits, where he was greatly beloved, and his exertions were crowned with no small measure of success. He had a vigorous understanding, and his mind was richly stored with varied and useful knowledge. His public discourses were characterized by great originality and strength, and were replete with evangelical truth. In his disposition he was frank, open, and generous ; his friendship was without fickleness ; and the warmth of his affection knew no decline. He retained his Missionary ardour to the last, and longed once more to offer himself on the Missionary altar, and to finish his course in preaching to the perishing millions of Africa " the glorious Gospel of the blessed God." He was seized with his last illness *while* in the pulpit. To those who removed him to his own house, he said, " I am going to heaven." On reaching home, he

said, "All is right." After this he was in a state of insensibility for several days; but, when conscious, he was employed in praising God, and in expressing his happy resignation to His will. He died at Brighton, on the 17th of November, 1845.

Joseph Taylor

Was born at Walton, near Brampton, in Cumberland, in the year 1779. He was converted to God in early life, and early began to call sinners to repentance. He offered himself for the foreign work, and in 1803 was appointed to the West Indies. His first Station was Nevis. In that and in other islands in the Antigua District he spent eight years, and his earnest, faithful and efficient ministry was made a blessing to many. He then returned to England and entered the home work. In 1818 he was appointed Resident Secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society; and under the pressure of the duties of that office certain ailments were contracted which caused him great suffering in after-life. In 1834 he was elected President of the Conference, being the first returned Missionary so honoured. It was a period of peculiar trial and difficulty; but his conduct throughout many painful affairs was distinguished by prudent counsels and by a spirit of mingled conciliation and firmness. Mr. Taylor was eminently a good man, "walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost." His piety was intelligent, cheerful, and practical. He was a man of much prayer, and of constant diligence in searching the Scriptures. He was, moreover, an incessant worker, an early riser, and a great economizer of time. As a Preacher he was plain, faithful, intelligent, energetic, and evangelical; urging home the great truths of the Gospel upon the conscience. The pulpit was his "joy and his throne." In the discharge of all pastoral duties he was an eminent example of zeal and fidelity, and no trifling matter prevented their punctual fulfilment. He retained his love for the Mission cause to the last; his zeal for the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom being part of his religion.

The afflictions which preceded his death were long and severe. He spent the last six months of his life under the hospitable roof of John Robinson Kay, Esq., of Bass Lane House, near Bury,

where every effort of kind and assiduous friendship was employed to mitigate his sufferings. He bore those sufferings with exemplary patience and fortitude ; and he was constantly waiting with joyful expectation for His coming, Whom he was accustomed to call "the Master," sometimes saying, "I should be thankful to my Saviour if He would be pleased to grant me my release," but adding, "I am on the Rock, and all is right." Not long before he lost the power of speech he exclaimed, "I have fought my way through ; the Saviour is with me !" and with two gentle sighs he gained his release on the evening of the 19th of November, 1845, in the sixty-seventh year of his age.

John Cullingford

Was a native of Norfolk. After labouring for some time as a Local Preacher he offered himself as a Missionary to the West Indies. He was one of several young men sent out to the Antigua District in 1826 to supply the vacancies occasioned by the fearful loss of life involved in the wreck of the "Maria" Mail Boat. Having laboured with zeal and success on several Stations in the Leeward Islands for nearly two years, in 1837 he was appointed Chairman of the St. Vincent's District, as the successor of the Rev. John Mortier. It was then that the personal acquaintance of the present writer with Mr. Cullingford began, and during several years' association with him as a colleague, a friend, and a Chairman, he always found him kind, considerate, and trustworthy.

Mr. Cullingford had many trials and difficulties to contend with, but he passed through them all with undaunted courage. At an early period he was bereaved of the wife of his youth ; and on his passage to St. Vincent's from Dominica, he lost a dear child by death, and had to commit its remains to a watery grave. He exerted himself nobly and successfully in the erection of the commodious new chapel at Kingstown, St. Vincent's ; and his health was no doubt seriously affected by his excessive labours and anxieties connected with this and other enterprises for the advancement of the cause of Christ. In 1845 he was stationed *in the island* of Trinidad, whence he paid a visit to Demerara to *assist at the services* connected with the laying of the foundation

of a new chapel. Immediately after his return, in the month of August, he was seized with a severe attack of illness from which he never fully recovered. At intervals, when a little better, he preached and administered the ordinances until the first Sabbath in December, when he preached for the last time, and celebrated with his people the dying love of Christ in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. As it was the opinion of medical men that a voyage to England was now absolutely necessary, he immediately left Trinidad for Barbadoes, hoping he would have strength to hold the District Meeting before his departure. But he was so weak that he had to be supported into the Meeting between two of the brethren. In this way he continued to attend the sittings, until, at his own request, the District Meeting was concluded in his bedroom. After that he never quitted his chamber, but gradually wasted away with scarcely any bodily pain until Wednesday morning, the 4th of March, 1846, when his redeemed spirit escaped to the paradise of God, in the forty-sixth year of his age. He died as he had lived, firmly resting on the atonement of Christ, and leaving behind him an admirable example of disinterested zeal and devotedness to the cause of Christian Missions.

Francis Wilson

Had a brief and chequered life; but in the last great day it will appear that he laboured to purpose. He was accepted as a candidate for the ministry in 1838. For some time he enjoyed the advantages of the Theological Institution, where he became much endeared to his fellow-students. He offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen, and was appointed to the Friendly Islands. He and his wife sailed, in company with several others, in the Mission ship "Triton;" and on the voyage between New Zealand and the Friendly Islands Mrs. Wilson died, and left her husband to enter upon his work as a lonely widower. He felt his bereavement most keenly, but bore up under it with Christian fortitude, and the blessing of God rested on his efforts to teach and to elevate the interesting people among whom his lot was cast. He was "in labours more abundant." His usefulness was most apparent when he drew near to

the close of life : and he was favoured to see a gracious revival of religion in the Friendly Islands before his departure. But some of the most important and valuable results of his labours are to be found in the character and the usefulness of the Native Ministers whom he trained in the Institution of which he had charge. In the midst of his useful labours he died at Vavau, on the 4th of March, 1846, deeply regretted by his brethren in the ministry, and by natives of all classes, by whom he was greatly beloved.

George Findlay

Was a young man of amiable temper, sincere piety, and promising talents. He was a native of Scotland. Having expressed his willingness to go out as a Missionary to Western Africa, he received an appointment to Kumasi, the capital of Ashanti, and embarked for his distant Station in the true Missionary spirit, and with sanguine hopes of success. He arrived at Cape Coast on the 30th of December, 1845 ; but, before arrangements could be made for him to proceed to the interior, he died of malignant fever. He died on the 10th of March, 1846, after being in the country two months and ten days, in the twenty-eighth year of his age and the first of his ministry. During his illness, which lasted a fortnight, he was watched over with the most tender and assiduous care, and he passed away amidst the prayers and affectionate sympathies of his brethren. He suffered greatly, but his end was eminently calm and peaceful ; and, although unable to say much, he gave abundant evidence that his hope was fixed on the " Rock of Ages," and that he knew in Whom he had believed.

William Dowson.

The Rev. William Dowson entered the ministry in 1810, and was for many years a zealous, devoted, and successful Missionary in the Bahama Islands, where, in connection with other brethren, he was largely instrumental in laying the foundation of that work which has been a blessing to thousands who might have

perished for lack of knowledge. After labouring there and on some other Stations in the West Indies and British North America, for the long period of twenty-four years, he returned to England, and, for a short time, entered the home work. At length he was obliged, by failure of health, to retire as a Supernumerary, when he returned to the Bahamas to end his days. In his retirement he was ever ready to assist the brethren to the utmost of his ability, till he was called to his reward. In his parental, pastoral, and ministerial relations, Mr. Dowson was esteemed and beloved. A few days before his decease, he was joined by several branches of his family in partaking of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper; after which he commended them to God in the most solemn and impressive manner. He then spoke of the sure foundation of his faith and hope, and of his earnest longing to depart and be with the Lord. Calmly reposing in his Saviour, and experiencing the benefits of His all-prevalent intercession, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, he waited for his Master's coming until Friday night, the 29th of May, 1846, when he calmly entered into rest. He died at New Providence, at the residence of his son-in-law, W. D. Albury, Esq., in the sixtieth year of his age and the thirty-sixth of his ministry.

Samuel Palmer

Entered the Wesleyan ministry in 1826, and, after labouring two years in England, proceeded as a Missionary to South Africa. His first appointment was Salem, a Colonial Circuit in the Eastern Province, where he had to labour and travel extensively among the British settlers in various parts of Albany. The character of his work at this period will appear from the following extract from a letter to the Missionary Committee: "On the whole, the work seems to be going on well, and not only do we hear of justification but of entire sanctification. I am under the necessity of travelling a great deal, in order that the places may be supplied. Hence the labour of this Station is severe. I have to ride forty, fifty, or more miles in a day, and preach; and this so often that, I fear, it will be too much for me to continue it long, especially as, in consequence of the

length of many of my journeys, I am under the necessity of riding nearly all day, by which I am exposed to the sun at mid-day. However, upon the whole, I thank God that I am where I am; and although I know that there probably is more toil than in an English Circuit, yet I would not change for any Circuit in England. I can say:

‘Labour is rest, and pain is sweet.
If Thou, my God, art here.’”

Mr. Palmer's next sphere of labour was Kaffirland, and as a Missionary to the heathen he was best known. The ignorance and degradation of the pagan Kaffirs were extreme. Writing under date of August 22nd, 1833, Mr. Palmer says: “I left home this morning and called at several kraals to know the reason of their absence from chapel on the Lord's day. Some pretended they could not tell when it was Sunday. Others said we did not pay them for coming. When I exhorted a woman to pray to God instead of trusting in the witch-doctor, she said, ‘Where does God live? How can I pray to Him when I don't know where He is?’ etc.”

But, by the blessing of God upon his persevering efforts, many of these benighted heathens were instructed in a knowledge of the principles of Christianity, brought under religious influences, and at length gathered into the fold of the Redeemer. For many years Mr. Palmer laboured successfully among the Pondo tribe on the borders of Natal; and the Station which he established still bears the name of “Palmerton,” in honour of its founder. His acquaintance with the character of the natives gave him great influence over them, and he always used it for a good purpose. He was remarkable for his ardent piety, unquenchable zeal, and indomitable perseverance. He was, moreover, noted for his generous, unselfish, and self-sacrificing spirit. It was while in the act of serving others rather than himself that he met with his death. While one of the Kaffir wars was raging, he kindly undertook to conduct some of his brethren and their people to a place of safety. He was riding on horseback and had over-exerted himself; and he was seized with a fit of apoplexy, and died suddenly, on the 15th of May, 1846.

Samuel Durrie

Had a Missionary history brief and chequered ; and the present writer calls to mind its principal incidents with peculiar feelings. Mr. Durrie entered the ministry in 1839, and received an appointment to the West Indies where he spent four years. He laboured chiefly in St. Vincent's, Tobago, and Trinidad. His health never appeared to be vigorous ; and it seemed gradually to decline after his second year in the tropics. Sometimes he would be very ill for a few weeks, and then rally again, so as to excite our hopes that he would after all become acclimatized and prove a healthy and useful Missionary. These hopes were, alas ! doomed to disappointment. When labouring in Trinidad, in 1842, his health so completely failed that an immediate change became necessary ; and early in the following year he visited Grenada, where the present writer was then stationed, and had the pleasure of entertaining him for two months, and securing him such attentions as his circumstances required. He once more revived ; but having returned to his Station he soon relapsed into his former state of weakness, and it was found necessary to make arrangements for his return to his native land. He reached England in great weakness, and at the Conference of 1845 was placed on the list of Supernumeraries. His health improved and his zealous spirit would not allow him to remain unemployed. At his own earnest request he was permitted to go to the Rye Circuit to assist the Rev. Thomas Skelton who was then in a declining state of health. For some time he was able to labour usefully and acceptably ; but in the month of May he returned home from the District Meeting considerably indisposed and was soon afterwards called to rest from his labours. He died in peace on the 30th of May, 1846, in the thirtieth year of his age. So long as he was able to speak, he bore a clear and triumphant testimony to the power of Divine grace ; reposing unshaken confidence in the atonement. His remains were interred in the churchyard at Rye, where a neat stone was erected to his memory a few years afterwards, chiefly through the instrumentality of the Rev George Ranyell, one of his West India colleagues, then stationed there. Mr. Durrie was a useful

preacher, and a kind and affectionate colleague; and by his humble, amiable, and loving disposition he became endeared to all who knew him.

James Evans

Entered the ministry in 1834, and was appointed to labour among the Indians of Upper Canada. His remarkable fitness for the sphere of labour assigned to him was soon proved, and he became one of the most successful Missionaries of modern times. Combined with great personal courage and perseverance, and the ability to endure hardship, he had a remarkable facility in learning difficult languages. These qualities, and the success which attended his early efforts to instruct and elevate the aborigines, pointed him out as a suitable person to occupy a still more important position, and he was appointed General Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions in the Hudson's Bay Territories.

It was in the far distant regions of the dreary North-West that Mr. Evans won his principal trophies as a Missionary to the American Indians. During the few years that he spent in that country he was "in labours more abundant." In addition to the every-day work of preaching the Gospel to the people, and instructing the children in a knowledge of letters and of the meaning of the word of God, he travelled thousands of miles by land and water, through ice and snow, visiting the respective Stations, advising his colleagues, superintending the erection of chapels, and laying the foundation, broad and deep, of that work which has proved such a blessing to the people. But that for which Mr. Evans will be best and longest remembered was the invention of a new alphabetical character for writing and printing the language of the Cree Indians. This proved to be such an advantage that on the new principle which he introduced, the people were enabled to learn to read in an incredibly short time. With a skill and perseverance worthy of the highest commendation, he made matrices, cast the types, translated portions of the Scriptures and other books, and printed them with his own hands. All succeeding Missionaries to the Hudson's Bay Territories have acknowledged themselves indebted to Mr. Evans for *his invention* and for his earnest and successful labours.

At length the health of this devoted Missionary failed, and under urgent medical advice he returned to England. The result, however, was not according to the anticipations of his friends. He continued in feeble health, but did his best to serve the good cause to the very last. He died suddenly at Keelby, in Lincolnshire, on the 23rd of November, 1846, at the house of a friend, after attending a Missionary Meeting, at which his statements had excited great interest. Blessed is he whom the Master at His coming shall find so doing.

William Clough

Was born at Bishopthorpe, near York, on the 30th of May, 1799. In early life he was the subject of religious impressions, and in the sixteenth year of his age became decidedly pious. After filling some subordinate offices in the Church, he was urged to offer himself for the work of the ministry; and believing that he was called of God, he durst not refuse. He passed the usual examinations, and was accepted; and in 1824 he was appointed to the Brigg Circuit. Shortly after the following Conference he went out as a Missionary to the West Indies, where for nearly nine years he laboured with great zeal and success. In St. Kitt's, Nevis, Montserrat, and other islands in the Antigua District, he did good service in the cause of his Divine Master. The period of his service was one of deep interest in the history of our West Indian Missions, and the persevering efforts of Mr. Clough and the noble band of men with whom he was associated did much towards preparing the poor Negro slaves for the glorious emancipation which was approaching. At length his health failed in consequence of over-exertion, and he was compelled to return to England, where he occupied several important Circuits in succession, and where his ministry was made a blessing to many.

Mr. Clough had just returned from the West Indies in the beginning of 1834, when the present writer was about to embark for the same field of Missionary labour, and their personal intercourse was mutually edifying. As a Christian Minister Mr. Clough was pre-eminently a man of prayer, communing with God in private, and frequently leading the devotions of his

congregations with great power. His mind was richly imbued with evangelical truth, the result of much reading and prayerful meditation, in which he greatly delighted. His sermons were carefully studied, and were perspicuous in style. His preaching was earnest, affectionate and persuasive, always acceptable, and in some of his Circuits very successful. He possessed much of the Missionary spirit, and rejoiced to advance the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom at home and abroad. He secured the respect and affection of his colleagues by the urbanity of his manners, and his superiority to envy and jealousy on the one hand, and neglect or contempt on the other. In the domestic relations he was affectionate and solicitous. He cared for the spiritual welfare of his family, and "ruled well his own house." His last affliction was protracted and painful, and had at times a depressing influence on his mind; but he was enabled by Divine grace to submit patiently to the will of God, often repeating with great emotion, "The will of the Lord be done." His last words were, "I am going; but all is well!" and shortly after he fell asleep in Jesus, December 10th. 1846, in the forty-eighth year of his age and the twenty-fourth of his ministry.

Matthew Lumb.

In a brief account of his early life and Christian experience which Mr. Lumb wrote, at the request of Mr. Wesley, for publication in the "*Arminian Magazine*," in 1791, he gives some interesting particulars. He was born in the parish of *Halifax*, *Yorkshire*, in *October*, 1761, and in his youthful days was much given up to worldly pleasure. At length, however, when about fifteen years of age, he was brought under the influence of the Gospel as preached by the early Methodist Preachers, and after seeking the Lord for some time he was enabled to realize a sense of the Divine favour, through our Lord Jesus Christ. He soon began to call sinners to repentance, and, in 1783, was appointed to a Circuit by Mr. Wesley, and became a useful and efficient travelling Preacher. After labouring for five years in *England and Scotland*, he offered himself for the Missionary work and was appointed to the *West Indies*, where his ministry was

greatly owned by God in the conversion of sinners and the building up of believers in their most holy faith.

The most remarkable event in Mr. Lumb's Missionary experience was his persecution and imprisonment in the island of St. Vincent in 1791. The Gospel had been introduced into that place a few years before under the most auspicious circumstances. All classes of the community seemed disposed to smile upon Dr. Coke and the noble band of Missionaries by whom he was accompanied when they first landed on their shores ; and for some time those who were left on the island to carry on the work were regarded with favour, as the common friends of the people. At length, however, when the planters made the discovery that the preaching of the Gospel to the Negroes might ultimately interfere with their cherished system of slavery, to say nothing about a certain system of immorality which was prevalent among them, they turned round, and seemed bent upon the expulsion of the Missionaries from the country. To accomplish this object they secured the passing of a law to prohibit any one from preaching in the island without a licence, twelve months' previous residence being necessary before the applicant was eligible for the privilege. For the first breach of this law the penalty was a heavy *fine and imprisonment* ; for the second, *banishment* from the island ; and for the third, *DEATH* ! When this law was passed Mr. Lumb said, " Shall we obey God or man ? " and proceeded with his work as before. But he had no sooner preached on the following Sunday morning than he was apprehended and dragged to prison. True to his principles he continued to preach, as he had opportunity, through the iron grating of the prison window to those who flocked around it ; and one interesting case of conversion as the result came under the notice of the present writer many years afterwards, when labouring in St. Vincent's. The imprisoned Missionary was soon afterwards visited by Dr. Coke, who laid the matter before the British Government, and secured the liberation of the Missionary, and the abrogation of the persecuting law ; and the Gospel ultimately triumphed in the island.

In 1793 Mr. Lumb returned to England, and laboured acceptably in various Circuits at home till 1826, when failing health obliged him to become a Supernumerary. He was a man of plain and unpretending manners ; and as a Preacher he was

zealous and faithful. For several years before his death his mental faculties were impaired to such a degree as to render him incapable of taking any part in those services in which he had been so long employed. He died in peace, on the 2nd of March, 1847, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.

William Henry Hann

Was appointed to Jamaica in 1840. He sailed on the 4th of March, and landed at Kingston on the 13th of April. As long as he was permitted to labour in that interesting field, his ministry was greatly blessed, especially to the young. He enjoyed the confidence of his brethren and the love of the people in a very high degree, and great was the sorrow among all classes when he was unexpectedly called away. He died in peace at Kingston, on the 10th of January, 1847, in the thirty-first year of his age and the seventh of his ministry.

James Wallace,

Having offered himself for the foreign work, was appointed to Ceylon. He embarked in November, 1845, and reached his destination in safety. In June, 1846, he was driven out to sea while on his way from Jaffna to Batticaloa, and for six days suffered great privations and dangers in a small craft in the Bay of Bengal. In the good providence of God he was at length rescued; but from the effects of his exposure and suffering, he appears never to have fully recovered. He lingered for some time, but all the means employed for his recovery proved unavailing. He died at Colombo, on the 21st of April, 1847, full of Christian hope and triumph, deeply regretted by those who only for a short time had witnessed his zeal and earnest desire for the salvation of the perishing heathen.

William Webb.

It is recorded of the Rev. W. Webb that "his conversion to God in early life was followed by a deep conviction of obliga-

tion to a personal consecration of himself to Christ, in whatever manner Divine Providence might open his path." That he was called by God to preach the Gospel there can be no doubt; and his fitness for the Missionary department of the work for which he offered himself, evidently appeared in the course of his useful career. In 1827 he was sent out to British North America, where he spent twenty years in arduous but useful labours for the spiritual benefit of the scattered settlers in the respective Circuits to which he was appointed. The kind of work in which he was engaged and the spiritual destitution of the people will appear from the following extract from a letter which he addressed to the Missionary Committee from Guysborough, Nova Scotia, under date of January 25th, 1830: "This Circuit is about forty miles in extent, and embraces ten places at which I preach occasionally; and some of which are so destitute of the Gospel, that the people would never hear a sermon if it were not for your Missionary. I have preached to persons in this Circuit who never before heard a sermon, nor beheld a Preacher of any kind. You may judge of my feelings when preaching to them; and when, on leaving them, they have seized my hand, and said with tears, they would rather be deprived of the common necessities of life than live without the Gospel. When travelling, many have come to me from neighbouring settlements, and entreated me to visit them, if it were only once. But it was utterly impossible. I cannot visit them: I leave their entreaties and tears with the friends of Missions in England, and earnestly pray that they, out of their overflowing abundance, may send us a little help; for we cannot help ourselves."

After pursuing his course for twenty years Mr. Webb was seized with an illness which ultimately proved fatal. Every sentiment which he expressed during his brief but severe affliction, evidenced great confidence in God, and the strong consolation which he perpetually received. His brethren in the ministry being absent at the District Meeting, he was visited in his last illness by an evangelical Clergyman of the Church of England, to whom he emphatically gave his last and glorious testimony in the following words: "I am standing on the Rock; I have not believed in cunningly devised fables; but I feel the power of the Lord." He fell asleep in Jesus, whilst

his sorrowing family, with some pious friends, were in prayer commending his spirit to the God of his salvation. He died at Charlotte Town, Prince Edward's Island, on the 4th of July, 1847.

John M'Kenny

Was born at Coleraine in Ireland, where his parents were pious and respectable members of the Wesleyan-Methodist Society. His conversion took place during a religious awakening among the young people, who had been formed into a Catechumen Class by the Rev. William Ferguson, who was the resident Minister at the time. He was made happy in the pardoning love of God when about twelve years of age; and from this period until his entrance on the ministry he was a serious and devout disciple of Christ, having a good report of all. In 1813 he received an appointment as the first Wesleyan Missionary to South Africa. On his arrival at the Cape of Good Hope he presented his credentials to the Governor of the Colony, but, strange to say, he was not allowed to exercise his ministry, His Excellency alleging that the English and Dutch Churches in Cape Town were already supplied with Ministers, and that the colonists had serious objections to the religious instruction of their slaves! All that Mr. M'Kenny could do under the circumstances was to hold private meetings occasionally for the benefit of a few pious soldiers and settlers, who had been anxiously looking for a Wesleyan Missionary to minister to them, and to await the instructions of the Committee, whilst his devoted wife opened a little school for the instruction of the rising generation.

The way being thus hedged up at the Cape, Mr. M'Kenny proceeded by the direction of the Committee to Ceylon, where he spent several years in zealous, persevering, and useful Missionary labour, taking a part with the companions of the lamented Dr. Coke in laying the foundation of that good work which has since been so prosperous. In 1835 he removed to Australia, where, from his standing, character, and experience, he took a prominent position among his brethren, being appointed Chairman of the District and Superintendent of the Sydney Circuit. The duties of these important offices he continued to

discharge most zealously and efficiently, until 1846, when he was compelled, by growing infirmities, to become a Supernumerary. In his comparative retirement the remaining portion of his consecrated energies was cheerfully expended in the service of God and His Church.

Mr. M'Kenny is described by those who knew him well, as a man of simple faith in Christ; and as an earnest, faithful, and successful Minister of the Gospel. His own early piety led him naturally to care for the welfare of the young. Affectionate and warm-hearted towards his own more immediate fellow-labourers in the Gospel vineyard, he was at the same time a lover of good men in all the Churches that are in Christ Jesus throughout the whole world. He died, as he had lived, steadfast in the faith, and testifying of a happy assurance of a saving interest in the great atonement, at Sydney, New South Wales, October 31st, 1847, in the fifty-eighth year of his age and the thirty-sixth of his ministry.

James R. Westley

Was called to serve the Lord in early life. He was awakened under a sermon from the 139th Psalm, preached at Kingsland Road, London, by the Rev. Mr. Holloway; and shortly afterwards obtained a knowledge of salvation by the remission of sins. From a deep conviction of duty he offered himself as a candidate for the ministry, and was received by the Conference of 1846, soon after which he was sent out to the West Indies. His labours, though brief, were not without fruit; and those who knew him best were anticipating for him a career of more than ordinary usefulness. He was diligent in his improvement of time, close in his application to study, unremitting in his pastoral duties, and simple but pointed and energetic in enforcing the great doctrines of Scripture from the pulpit. The patience and faith of the Christian believer were conspicuous in his sickness and death. He died at Kingston, Jamaica, of yellow fever, on the 29th of November, 1847, in the thirtieth year of his age, after a residence in the island of scarcely thirteen months.

Robert Lean

Was a native of Cornwall, and a young man of deep piety. He was no sooner brought to a saving knowledge of the truth than he began to work for God as his ability and circumstances would permit. He was at length called to preach the Gospel; and in the spirit of true consecration to the service of Christ, he offered himself as a Missionary to Western Africa, knowing that the climate had proved fatal to many of his predecessors. He arrived at St. Mary's on the Gambia on the 8th of December, 1847, and in a few weeks afterwards proceeded up the river to Macarthy's Island, his appointed Station. He entered upon his work with characteristic zeal and earnestness; but it pleased the great Head of the Church to put a speedy termination to his labours. After preaching one Sabbath evening he became unwell; the usual symptoms of fever soon made their appearance, and in twelve days afterwards he was called to his eternal rest. He died at Macarthy's Island on the 23rd of March, 1848, in the twenty-fourth year of his age, after residing in the country only three months and a half.

John Pickavant

Was born at Rufford, in Lancashire, in the year 1792. When about sixteen years of age he was brought to Christ, under the ministry of the Rev. J. B. Holroyd. At this time his native village was favoured with a remarkable outpouring of the Holy Spirit, in connection with which fourteen of his own name and family were in six weeks enrolled in one Class-book. He began to preach at an early age; and his labours from the commencement of his career were marked by more than ordinary zeal, acceptance, and success. In 1814 he was called to the work of the ministry. His first Circuit was Luton, in Bedfordshire: but at the following Conference he was appointed to Newfoundland, where he laboured for the long period of thirty years, and was largely instrumental in extending and establishing the infant Churches in that island. During the greater part of the time he

held the responsible office of Chairman of the District, enjoying in a high degree the confidence and esteem of the Missionary Committee, and beloved and respected by his brethren in the ministry and by all classes of the colonists.

In 1843 he returned to England, his health being so greatly impaired that he was compelled to retire for a time from the more active duties of the ministry. The following year, however, he was sufficiently recovered to take charge of a Circuit, which he continued to do until called away by death. He possessed, in more than common measure, some of the most important qualifications for usefulness in the great work to which his life was devoted. His piety was deep, uniform, and cheerful. His address was easy, engaging, and dignified. His views of evangelical truth were clear and comprehensive. He evinced no taste for speculation or controversy; but his discourses were eminently practical and lucid in their enforcement of Christian duty and privilege. His disposition was marked by great amiability and friendliness; which, as an auxiliary to his attractive piety, rendered him a universal favourite in the social circle. After a severe illness of more than three months, which he endured with exemplary patience, he died in sure and certain hope of eternal life, on the 27th of March, 1848, in the fifty-seventh year of his age and the thirty-fourth of his ministry.

William Wilson, 2nd.

Was born near Winchester, in the year 1779. He was brought to God under the ministry of the Rev. William Shelmerdine, and soon after his conversion began to call sinners to repentance. He was recommended to the ministry by the Rev. Joseph Entwisle in the year 1810. After spending a few years in the home work, in 1816 he was appointed to the Bahamas, where he laboured faithfully and successfully for about ten years. He was for some years Chairman of the District, and discharged his duties in a manner creditable to himself and advantageous to the work which he sought to promote. After his return to England he occupied various Circuits in different parts of the country. He laboured with diligence and success until 1846, when failing health obliged him to become a Supernumerary. He settled at

Saddleworth, near Manchester, where he was respected and esteemed by all classes. He was a man of great simplicity of manners, and earnest and diligent in his Master's cause. The chief feature in his ministry was pastoral visitation, in which he was eminently useful, especially among the young. His death was sudden. It occurred on the 31st of July, 1848, in London, where he had arrived on a visit only an hour and a half before. But sudden as was the call he was no doubt ready to enter into the joy of his Lord. He departed this life in the sixty-ninth year of his age and the thirty-eighth of his ministry.

Stephen Bamford.

Some of the most zealous and devoted Ministers and Missionaries in the Wesleyan-Methodist Connexion have been connected in early life with the British army. One of these was the Rev. S. Bamford. In his youthful days he was wild and wayward; and, wishing to see the world and to enjoy its pleasures, he left home and enlisted as a soldier. He honourably served his Sovereign fourteen years; and, having been converted to God while in the army, he obtained his discharge. About three years afterwards, in 1806, he was admitted into the Wesleyan ministry and appointed to labour in Cumberland, Nova Scotia. For nearly thirty years he was unwearied in his efforts to save souls and to promote the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. He occupied successively several important Circuits in British North America, and his labours were largely owned by God. During the last twelve years of his life he was unable to bear the fatigues and responsibilities of regular Circuit work; but he laboured as his strength would permit. He possessed an active and vigorous mind, which he improved by valuable reading, and careful and accurate observation of men and things. But his best characteristics were, that he was a man of strong faith, of earnest prayer, and of a grateful spirit. His end was peace. He died at Digby, Nova Scotia, August 14th, 1848, in the seventy-eighth year of his age and the forty-second of his ministry.

Thomas Purslow

Had pious parents, and in early life gave his heart to God. Having been called to the work of the ministry, he was appointed, with his own cheerful concurrence, as a Missionary to Western Africa. He arrived at Sierra Leone on the 8th of December, 1847; and, being considered from his education and studious habits well qualified for the office, he was appointed Tutor to the Theological Institution for the training of Native Teachers at King Tom's Point, where, by the kindness of his disposition, the fervour of his piety, and his unwearied attention to the spiritual and intellectual welfare of the students, he secured their sincere respect, as well as the esteem and confidence of his brethren in the ministry. But his career was short. Towards the close of the first rainy season, he was attacked with malignant fever, which proved fatal after he had lingered for a few days in great pain and weakness. He was graciously supported by the presence of the Redeemer; and when free from delirium he expressed his entire confidence in Christ. His last words were: "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Mr. Purslow finished his course on the 2nd of October, 1848; and the general esteem in which he was held by all classes of the community was marked by the attendance of about two thousand persons at his funeral, among whom were His Excellency the Governor of the colony, and several Clergymen.

John Hunt.

Few Missionaries have risen to greater eminence or done a larger amount of work for the Master in foreign lands than the Rev. John Hunt. The story of his laborious life is interesting and suggestive. He was born at Balderton, near Newark, on the 13th of June, 1812, and in his boyhood and youth had to struggle with many disadvantages; but, by the blessing of God, he rose above them all. Early in life he had impressive views of the providence of God; but in the eighteenth year of his

age he was deeply convinced of sin, trusted fully in Christ for his own personal salvation, and "being justified by faith," had "peace with God." From the time of his conversion he was eminent for simple piety, sincerely seeking that the love of God might be perfected in him. He soon began to call sinners to repentance; and when he had acted in the capacity of a Local Preacher for about four years, he was induced to offer himself and was accepted as a candidate for the Missionary work. With a view to his mental improvement, he was placed as a student in the Wesleyan Theological Institution at Hoxton, where he remained nearly three years, a pattern of attention, diligence, uniform Christian circumspection, and the kindest regard for his fellow-students. The progress which he made in his studies was great, and fitted him in an eminent degree for the work which was before him.

Having been appointed to Fiji, he embarked for his distant Station in 1838, and early in the following year commenced his remarkable career of foreign service. For nearly ten years he was unwearied in his efforts to promote the welfare of the degraded people among whom his lot was cast, being "instant in season and out of season" in his Master's work, and crowding into that comparatively short space the service of a long life. He speedily acquired a knowledge of the Fijian language, and proceeded at once to translate the New Testament and other useful books. He also issued a course of Christian theology chiefly for the benefit of Native Preachers and Teachers, and in every possible way strove to advance the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom. Nor were his labours in vain in the Lord. As the result of his faithful labours and those of his devoted colleagues, a gracious revival of religion was experienced in Fiji, and multitudes were gathered into the fold of Christ. In the course of a few years a change was produced by the introduction of Christianity such as has seldom been experienced in any country.

Mr. Hunt was a man of singular intellectual energy; of a piety which breathed the purest spirit of love to God and charity to men; of patience which accumulated trials and difficulties failed to move; and of a "calmly fervent zeal," which in sickness and in health, in strength and in weakness, was always in pursuit of his one great object—the salvation of man.

His death was in beautiful harmony with his life. In his last illness, when reference was made to the prospect before him, he said emphatically, "I see nothing but Jesus;" and when prayer was offered with him, he broke out in earnest supplication for the people: "Lord, bless Fiji! Save Fiji! Thou knowest my soul has loved Fiji. My heart has travailed in pain for Fiji. O Lord, bless Fiji!" etc. Thus he continued for a length of time, till his strength failed. With his expiring breath he expressed his firm trust in Christ, and so passed away to be for ever with the Lord. He died at Viwa, on the 4th of October, 1848, in the thirty-seventh year of his age and the tenth of his ministry.

Philip Le Bas

Was born in the island of Jersey, and converted to God in his youth through the instrumentality of Wesleyan Methodism. He was recommended to the Conference as a suitable candidate for the ministry in 1834, and was stationed as a Missionary in the south of France, where he laboured for several years with acceptance and success. He was a man of strong understanding and well-cultivated mind. By diligent application he obtained a considerable amount of useful learning. He had a competent knowledge of the French language and a good address, and his pulpit labours, while his health continued, were respectable and useful. In 1843, whilst stationed at Caen, he had an attack of typhus fever, which left such a degree of nervous debility in his system that he was never afterwards equal to the full amount of ministerial and pastoral work which the duties of a Circuit required, and from that debility he never fully recovered. His last illness was borne with resignation to the will of God. A short time before his decease he said to a friend who enquired after his health, "If my body were in as good a condition as my soul, I should be a healthy man." Soon afterwards, his mental powers were reduced to such a state of prostration, that he was incapable of giving to his friends any account of his state of mind; but before his departure he had a lucid interval, and, though he could not speak, he gave such signs as satisfied those around him that all was peace. He died at Bar-le-Duc, on the 26th of November, 1848.

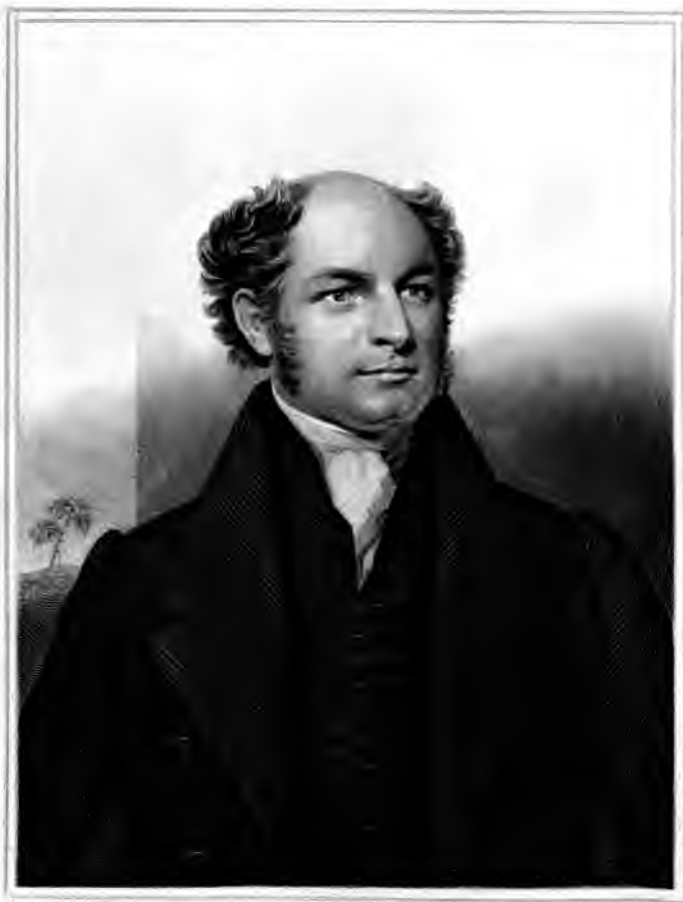
James M'Byron

Embarked as a Missionary for the West Indies, in November, 1846, and laboured for a year or two in the St. Vincent's District, where he was much beloved by both Ministers and people. In the autumn of 1848 his health entirely failed, and he was compelled to return to his native land. He reached home in safety, but never recovered his wonted vigour. He lingered for awhile, being graciously sustained in his last illness by the presence and blessing of God, till at length the Master called him, and he passed away to be for ever with the Lord. He died at Dundee, on the 20th of January, 1849, in the twenty-ninth year of his age.

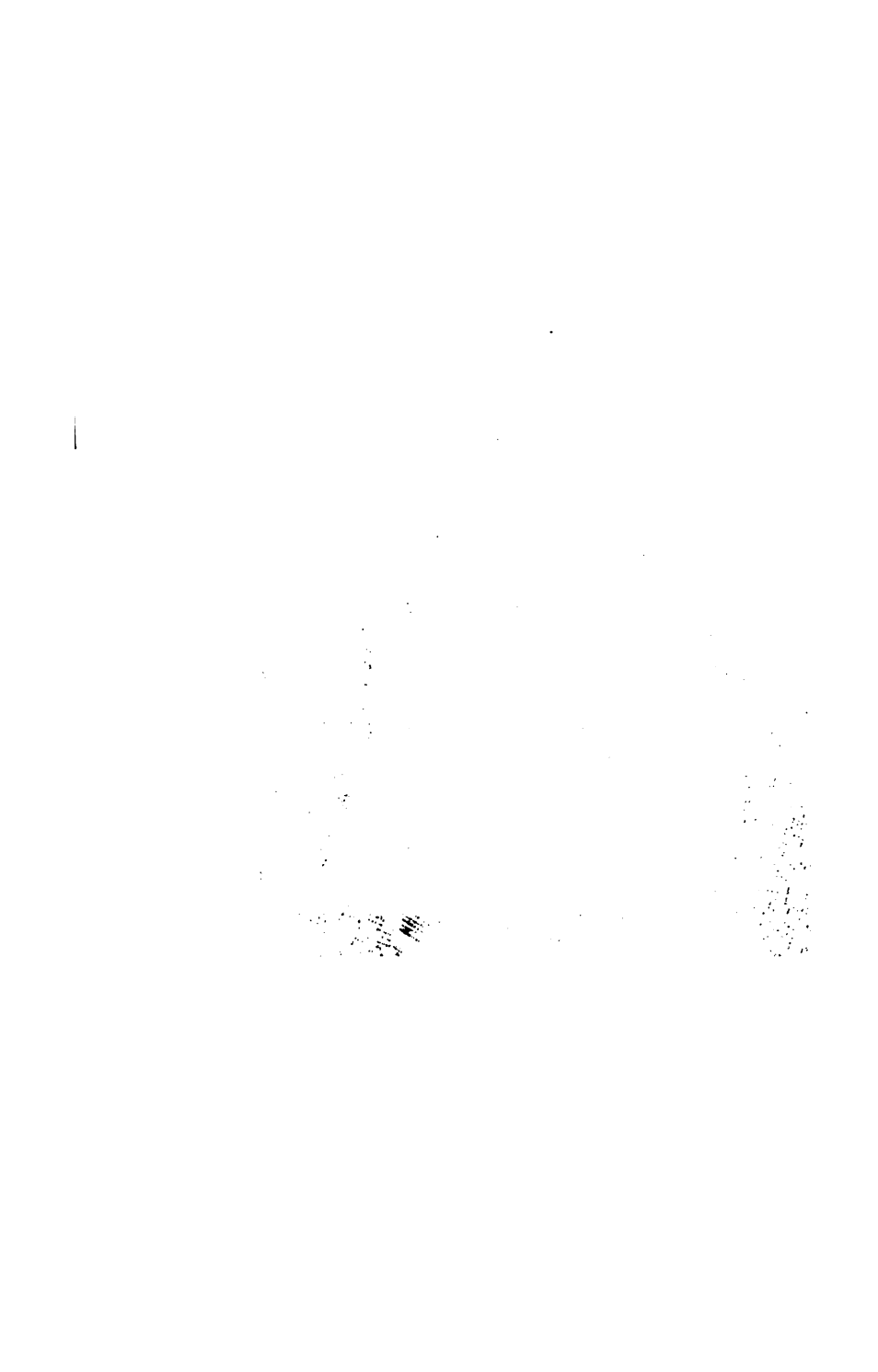
Joseph Roberts.

In the list of able and zealous Missionaries who have at different times gone forth to the far distant East, the name of the Rev. Joseph Roberts will ever occupy a prominent and worthy place. He was appointed to Jaffna in 1818; he subsequently laboured at Batticaloa and Trincomalee; and after a residence of fourteen years in Ceylon, returned to England, where he was stationed successively at Canterbury, Bristol, Sheffield, and Macclesfield. Although he was thus engaged in the home work he did not lose his interest in the Missionary enterprise, but was ever ready to plead the cause of the poor heathen from the pulpit and the platform. He moreover published a valuable book, entitled, "Oriental Illustrations of the Sacred Scriptures," which has been much read and admired as a remarkable chapter in the history of the human mind, throwing light on numerous passages in the Bible, of which the meaning is brought out with peculiar beauty and force.

The health of Mr. Roberts having been recruited by his residence in England, and the education of his children having been in a good measure accomplished, he again offered himself for Missionary service, and in the year 1842 was appointed to succeed the Rev. Jonathan Crowther, as General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Missions in the Presidency of



REV.^d JOSEPH ROBERTS, JUN^r



Madras. In this field he found ample scope for his sanctified energies, and gave himself to his work with the utmost zeal and devotion. In preaching the Word of God both to Europeans and to natives, and in the performance of pastoral and official duty, he was indefatigable. Though much engaged in the management of the temporal affairs of the Missions under his direction, he was an active member of the Committee of the Madras Auxiliary Bible Society, and of its Translation Committee, and of several other religious and charitable associations. In addition to his other engagements he executed some translations in the Tamil language, which were published by the Oriental Translation Society in London, connected with the Royal Asiatic Society for Great Britain and Ireland, of which he was a corresponding member from an early period of his residence in the East. He also prepared for the press a lucid and comprehensive treatise on "Caste, and its Bearing on Christianity and Missions," which was published in England a few years before his death, to say nothing of his numerous contributions to various periodicals.

It was observed for some time that his vigorous constitution was giving way under the toils and cares of Mission work; but it was not until within a few days of his disease that he became seriously unwell. He then sank rapidly. His departure from earth was tranquil and happy. A few hours previously, when Mrs. Roberts had read to him certain portions of Scripture, he exclaimed, "That is precious! How sweet! I never enjoyed anything so much!" Having testified his firm trust in the atonement of Christ, he fell asleep in Him at Palaveram, near Madras, on the 14th of April, 1849, aged fifty-four.

Francis Whitehead

Entered the ministry in 1830; and, having offered himself for the foreign work, was sent out to Jamaica. For a few years he laboured there happily and usefully; but in 1843 he and several other brethren were removed from the island and sent to other fields of labour. Mr. Whitehead was appointed to the St. Vincent's District; but it is doubtful whether he was ever so happy in the work as he had been before. His last Station was in the

island of Tobago, where both he and his wife were called away somewhat suddenly under circumstances peculiarly affecting. He died at Elsinour, on the 30th of April, 1849. He was a man of a sensitive disposition, and was highly esteemed by his brethren.

Robert L. Lusher

Was converted to God in early life through the instrumentality of Methodism, and was called, on the recommendation of the Rev. Joseph Entwisle and John Gaulter, into the Missionary work in 1817. During the first ten years of his ministry he occupied important Stations in Canada and Nova Scotia, where, by his uniform piety, his amiable disposition, his uncompromising integrity, his pastoral work, and his highly acceptable pulpit labours, he won for himself the esteem and confidence, not only of his brethren, but also of the Societies and congregations over which he was placed. In 1827 he returned to England; and after labouring for several years in this country, in compliance with the request of the Missionary Committee, he proceeded to Canada as the Chairman of the Eastern District, and resumed his ministerial duties among the people of his former charge. His health, however, speedily declined; and he was obliged, in 1843, to desist from the full and regular labours of a Christian Minister, and to become a Supernumerary. His piety grew with his intelligence and years, and he was greatly endeared to all who knew him. The last years of his life were years of deep affliction and sorrow; but they were years also of abundant spiritual consolation. His trust in Christ was constant and unshaken, and in his last sickness his prospects were peculiarly bright and cheering. Not long before his death he was heard to say, "My trust is in Jesus;" and again,

"I the chief of sinners am,
But Jesus died for me."

He died at Montreal on the 10th of July, 1849, in the sixty-second year of his age and the thirty-second of his ministry.

William Longbottom

Was a native of Bingley, in Yorkshire, and the descendant of a well-known Methodist family of former times. He was convinced of sin and of the necessity of a change of heart under a sermon preached by the venerable Joseph Benson at the Leeds Conference in 1818. He soon afterwards found peace in believing; and, while he continued in his native town, he became distinguished in various departments of usefulness. In 1826 he was accepted as a candidate for the ministry, and was requested by the Committee to proceed to a foreign Station; but, circumstances preventing his immediate departure, he was employed for a year or two in the home work. Having studied the Tamil language under the direction of the Rev. T. H. Squance, at Reading, he embarked for Madras in November, 1829. His earnest ministry excited the attention of the Anglo-Indian population of Madras, and he was highly esteemed by all classes. By zeal and over-exertion at the commencement of his career he unfortunately sacrificed his health, and contracted a chronic disorder which accompanied him through life, and often interfered with the vigorous discharge of his ministerial duties. In 1835, for the recovery of his health, he visited the Cape of Good Hope; but he returned to India too soon to derive much benefit from the change. Having received instructions from the Missionary Committee to proceed to Swan River, in Western Australia, to commence a new Mission there, he embarked for the Mauritius, proceeded thence to Van Diemen's Land, and there embarked for Swan River, which he never reached. The vessel in which he sailed with his family was wrecked in Encounter Bay; and before the nearest settlement, Adelaide, could be reached, he was exposed to hardships and fatigues which tended further to injure his constitution, already greatly impaired. Finding a small congregation at Adelaide, he opened his commission there, and his acceptable ministry was largely instrumental in laying the foundation of that work which has since assumed such large proportions. With some interruptions and a short time spent in Van Diemen's Land, Mr. Longbottom continued to labour in South Australia until 1846, when he had

permission to return home. He preferred, however, remaining in Adelaide, where he retired as a Supernumerary, and where he ended his days. The last weeks of his life were marked by extreme feebleness of body and mind, and after enduring much pain, which happily subsided as the closing scene drew near, he gently passed away to be for ever with the Lord, on the 29th of July, 1849. Almost his last words were : " The great Atonement was made for me : all will be right at last."

Jeremiah Hartley

Was received into the ranks of the Wesleyan ministry by the Conference of 1843, at the recommendation of the Bechuana District Meeting, South Africa, where he was then resident. He had previously been employed in that part of the Mission field as a Catechist, and had discovered graces and gifts which marked him out as a person fit for a higher sphere of labour. He is described by the Missionaries of the District, under whose eye his public life was spent, as " pious, zealous, and highly useful." His course was comparatively brief. After a short illness he peacefully entered into rest, at Imparani, on the 22nd of November, 1849, in the thirty-sixth year of his age.

Thomas Harrison.

Mr. Harrison, when quite a young man, went out as a planter to the island of Antigua ; and, being at that time a stranger to vital godliness, he easily fell into the practices which then extensively prevailed among the people. About the year 1819, he formed an acquaintance with some of the Wesleyan Ministers then labouring there ; and, by God's blessing, he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth. Having felt it to be his duty to devote himself entirely to the service of God in His Church, in 1821 he relinquished his secular employment, and was engaged under the direction of the Conference as a Missionary in the Antigua District, in which his diligent and faithful ministry, his consistent piety, and his assiduity in every part of the work secured for him the esteem and confidence of

all who knew him. In 1834 he was appointed Chairman of the Antigua District; but in 1836 the failure of his health compelled him to retire from the Mission work and to return to England, where, after an unsuccessful attempt to fulfil the regular duties of a Circuit, he became a Supernumerary. In that capacity he resided for some time in the neighbourhood of Peterborough, and during the last five years of his life in London. In both these places he preached as frequently as the state of his health would permit, and was especially useful in pastoral visitation. His last illness was short, and his death comparatively sudden, and attended with circumstances peculiarly solemn and afflictive. But he was not unprepared for the summons of the Master; and some of his last expressions gave assurance that "all was right," and that his end was peace. He died on the 9th of August, 1849, in the sixty-first year of his age and the twenty-eighth of his ministry.

Matthew Lang

Was born in Ireland, in 1798; but, having accompanied his parents to England when quite a child, he was brought up at Preston, in Lancashire. In that town, when about sixteen years of age, he was converted to God through the instrumentality of Wesleyan Methodism. At the age of twenty-five after having successfully discharged the duties of Exhorter and Local Preacher for some time, he was called into the ministry, for which he appeared well fitted both in body and mind. In 1823, having offered himself for the foreign work, he was appointed to Canada, where he laboured faithfully and diligently as a Missionary for twenty-seven years, when he was called to rest from his toil, and to enter into the joy of his Lord. Mission work in Canada was at that time truly arduous and trying to health, not only from the bleak and rigorous character of the climate in winter, but also from the long journeys which had to be performed in order to reach the scattered settlers in their distant clearings. All this Mr. Lang endured as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, setting an example of patience and perseverance to his junior brethren worthy of their study and imitation.

Of Mr. Lang it might be truly said that all the energies of his

body and mind were devoted to the accomplishment of the great purposes of his ministry, to which he felt himself called by the Holy Ghost. He maintained an unblemished character during the whole of his public course, and was eminently distinguished by the fervour and uniformity of his zeal, in seeking the glory of Christ and the salvation of men. He was "in labours more abundant;" and his acceptable ministry was signally attended with the Divine blessing. He sustained with honour and integrity some of the most important offices in his District, and was at the time of his death Chairman of the Eastern Canada District, and General Superintendent of its Missions. The oft-repeated desire of his soul, in his most devout frame, was that which is expressed in the words :

" O that without a lingering groan
I may the welcome word receive ;
My body with my charge lay down,
And cease at once to work and live ! "

And his end was in accordance with his wish. While engaged in the service of the Church, he was suddenly seized with sickness, which, in twenty minutes, ended in death. His last utterance, and indeed the only one which he had power to articulate, was in beautiful harmony with his habitual trust in Christ, " Sweet Jesus, help me to glorify Thee ! " He died at St. John's on the 21st of February, 1850, in the fifty-second year of his age and the twenty-seventh of his ministry.

Sampson Busby

Was born at Rainton, in Yorkshire, on the 16th of February, 1790. His parents were members of the Established Church, and in the forms and principles of that communion they appear to have trained up their children. During his early years he was often the subject of good impressions ; and, although they did not directly issue in his conversion, they prepared him for the reception of " the grace of God that bringeth salvation." He became accustomed to attend the Wesleyan chapel, then *lately* erected in his native town ; and under a faithful ministry he was there awakened to a full sense of his lost condition, and

soon obtained mercy and became "a new creature in Christ Jesus." After discharging with credit the duties of Prayer Leader, Exhorter, and Local Preacher, he was received into the regular work of the ministry, and appointed to labour in the Luton Circuit. He had there exercised his gifts as an evangelist for a few months only, when he was called to London, and solemnly ordained to the Missionary work, for which he had offered himself, by Dr. Coke and others, on the 28th of August, 1812. In the ensuing spring he was sent to Newfoundland. His labours in that island for four years were remarkably owned by God, and led to the salvation of many souls. He was afterwards stationed for a short time in Prince Edward's Island; but the last twenty-nine years of his life were spent in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In both those provinces the great Head of the Church gave him many seals to his ministry and many souls for his hire. After a long, laborious, and useful career, the health of this faithful servant of God gave way, and he gradually sank into the grave; but his death was in beautiful harmony with his devoted life. In his last illness he was sustained by the presence and grace of his Heavenly Father, and was enabled to rejoice in the "perfect love" which "casteth out fear." After lingering for some time in much pain, but in perfect resignation to the will of God, he fell asleep in Jesus on Easter Sunday, March 31st, 1850, in the sixty-first year of his age and the thirty-eighth of his ministry.

John Mortier

Was a native of London, where he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in early life, and where his first efforts to do good were put forth in connection with an institution known as the "Christian Community," the members of which are largely employed in visiting workhouses, etc. Having been accepted as a candidate for the Wesleyan ministry, and having offered himself for the foreign work, he in 1814 received an appointment to the West Indies. His first Station was Nevis, where he was much beloved both by his colleagues and by the people of his charge. He subsequently laboured in St. Vincent's, Grenada, Barbadoes, and St. Kitt's; but it was in the

colony of Demerara that he chiefly exercised his useful ministry. For seventeen years he devoted himself to the spiritual interests of that important and populous region. He was there during the imprisonment and death of the Rev. Mr. Smith, of the London Missionary Society ; and he deeply sympathized with that injured man of God. Both before and after the date of emancipation, he enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all classes of the community, as the present writer can testify from personal observation, having been associated with him as a colleague during the most critical period of the history of British Guiana. He was an earnest and successful labourer in the Lord's vineyard ; and it is believed that he was the honoured instrument of gathering hundreds of precious souls into the fold of Christ, as well as of erecting several spacious chapels for the rapidly increasing congregations which attended the ministry. As Chairman of the District, as Superintendent, and as fellow-labourer, he was remarkable for his fidelity, diligence, and never-failing urbanity and kindness.

Few Missionaries have enjoyed such a share of health as was graciously vouchsafed to Mr. Mortier, in a climate which, at best, is exhausting to an English constitution ; and still fewer choose so protracted a period of foreign service. During the thirty-six years which he spent in connection with the West Indian Missions he returned twice to his own country : in 1828, for the purpose of recruiting his health ; and in 1848, after increasing infirmities had compelled him to become a Supernumerary. But in both cases, after a brief residence in England, he returned to that work which was ever the object of his devoted preference, and in which, as his health permitted, he laboured to the last. A few months before his death he had an attack of apoplexy, which brought him into a very feeble state, and from which he never perfectly recovered. A second attack ended in death, notwithstanding every effort to ward off its effects. He died in peace at St. Kitt's, on the night of the 13th of June, 1850. During his last illness he was graciously sustained and comforted. He sought in prayer more intimate intercourse with his heavenly Father, and he was strengthened with might by the Spirit in the inner man. He was evidently getting ready for his inheritance ; and he often said to Mrs. Mortier and others, "My work is done." On the evening of his death he

prayed with much fervour, and appeared as well as usual. About ten o'clock the summons arrived, and he was ready to receive it. His soul was peaceful and happy, and about midnight he departed to his rest in heaven.

Thomas Laidman Hodgson

Passed the early portion of his life, though never guilty of serious immorality, in the amusements and vanities of the world ; and it was not until he had arrived at the age of twenty-three, that he yielded to the strivings of the Holy Spirit and became a decided Christian. His conversion took place during a revival of religion at Darlington, in Durham, the place of his birth. Some time afterwards, the secret intimation was conveyed to his mind—an intimation which eventually matured into full conviction—that it was his duty to preach the Gospel ; and, although he had sacrifices to make, and many obstacles stood in his way, he was not disobedient to the heavenly call. Following the indications of Providence, and sincerely anxious for Divine guidance, he soon found himself in “a plain path,” and entered upon the solemn and important duties of the Christian ministry. He was appointed to an English Circuit in 1815, and when he had spent six years in the home work, he felt it upon his heart to offer himself as a Missionary to the heathen. He was accordingly appointed to a Station in South Africa, and in that part of the world the principal portion of his ministerial life was spent in arduous labours for the spiritual welfare of various tribes and classes of men.

Soon after his arrival at the Cape of Good Hope Mr. Hodgson proceeded into the far distant interior, and, in conjunction with the Rev. Samuel Broadbent and others, took an active part in the commencement of the Bechuana Mission. For nearly eight years he laboured in that country, amidst many hardships, alarms, and dangers, arising from the prevalence of war and the unsettled state of the respective tribes. Discouraging as was the prospect at times, the Missionaries were not permitted to labour in vain. After many trials and difficulties had been surmounted, they succeeded in laying the foundation of a good work which has continued to the present

time. In the early part of 1831, it being rendered necessary by domestic circumstances that Mr. Hodgson should return to his native land, he embarked accordingly, and arrived in London in safety in the month of May the same year.

After spending a few years in English Circuits, in 1836 Mr. Hodgson again embarked for South Africa, being appointed to the Cape Town Station ; and the following year he took charge of the work as the Chairman and General Superintendent of the Cape of Good Hope District. From the time of his arrival on this occasion until he finished his career, he resided in Cape Town. During this period especially he abounded in labours ; his assiduity and zeal suffering no diminution by the lapse of years. The results of his diligence were visible and cheering, the work being gradually extended from year to year, and the number of church members being considerably increased. At length his naturally robust constitution began to give way under his incessant and arduous labours. For several months before his decease his health had been evidently failing. He did not anticipate, however, that the last messenger was so near at hand until a short time before his death. Yet he was ready for the will of his heavenly Father. He died triumphantly happy in God on the 21st of June, 1850, his last words being : " Victory, victory, through the blood of the Lamb ! " He was in the sixty-third year of his age and the thirty-fifth of his ministry. Mr. Hodgson was of an amiable disposition, and much respected by all classes, as the present writer can testify, having been appointed to succeed him in the office which he held at the time of his death.

George Cubitt

Was born at Norwich in the year 1791, and received his education in that city. His family removing to Sheffield whilst he was yet a youth, he was there brought under the instructive and powerful ministry at that time exercised in Carver Street chapel ; and he was led to join the Wesleyan Society connected with that place of worship. He soon afterwards found peace through believing ; and thenceforth, by the distribution of religious tracts and in other ways, he strove to advance the interests

of the Redeemer's kingdom to the utmost of his power. His youthful efforts in preaching which were made in the neighbourhood of Sheffield and Manchester gave promise of excellence ; and, after passing through the usual examinations he was admitted into the ranks of the Wesleyan ministry at the Conference of 1813, and was regarded by all who knew him as a very talented and promising young man.

Feeling it upon his heart to offer himself for the foreign work, Mr. Cubitt was appointed to Newfoundland, where he spent a few years with credit to himself and advantage to the cause in which he was engaged. The arduous labour and exposure incident to Mission life in that rigorous climate proving injurious to his health, he returned to England in 1819, and thenceforth exercised his able ministry in connection with the home work. He occupied several important Circuits in Great Britain ; commanding in each of them, by his public teaching, the admiration of many and especially of his more cultivated and intelligent hearers.

In 1836 Mr. Cubitt was appointed editor of the "Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine," and other works published at the Conference Office, and the remainder of his life was chiefly devoted to literary work. In this important department of Christian labour he was patient, plodding, and persevering, bringing out the Connexional periodicals with marked ability, and preparing for the press several volumes which were well adapted for usefulness in our Sunday Schools and among young people generally. After several years of useful labour in this responsible position, in which his time was devoted to close mental application during the week, and to preaching on the Sabbath, with occasional Missionary deputations, Mr. Cubitt finished his course somewhat suddenly. Three days' affliction gave the brief premonition of his lamented end ; and the fatal stroke was of such a nature as to prevent all utterance on the part of the sufferer. He appeared quite conscious, however, to the last ; and with a placid smile on his countenance, he waved his hand in token of triumph over the last enemy. He gently passed away, on the 13th of October, 1850. Because of the circumstances of his peculiar vocation of editor, his love of literary pursuits, and his remarkably sensitive and retiring disposition, Mr. Cubitt mixed but little in company during the latter part

of his life, and was but little known beyond the limited circle of his personal friends. By them, however, he was highly esteemed as a man of numerous and rare excellencies. He retained his love to the Mission cause to the last, and he was announced to attend a series of Missionary Meetings at Brighton and other places when he was seized with his last illness, and the present writer had to supply his place.

Edward S. Thompson

Was converted to God when fifteen years of age ; and, having been employed as a Local Preacher for some time in the Kingswood Circuit, in England, he was admitted on trial for the Wesleyan ministry in 1841. He was soon afterwards appointed to Jamaica, and commenced his labours there in the course of the following year. On his passage he called at the island of Grenada, where the present writer had the pleasure of entertaining him during his short stay. The intercourse was pleasant and profitable, and a very favourable impression was received of the young Missionary's fitness for the West Indian work.

Mr. Thompson occupied several Stations in the island of Jamaica with credit to himself and advantage to the cause in which he was engaged. He was a young man of respectable pulpit talents, and was diligent and persevering in the discharge of his Missionary duties ; and, by his genial, loving spirit, he endeared himself to his brethren and the people of his charge. At length his arduous labours and the trying climate began to tell upon his health and constitution. For some time before the close of 1849 he had been suffering from a severe attack of sickness. In the early part of the following year, acting on medical advice, he applied for permission to return to England. That permission arrived a few weeks before his last illness ; but anxiety to remain at his post until his successor arrived, prompted him to defer for a month or two his departure from the island. On Sunday, the 24th of November, he preached for the last time ; and, as if conscious that he would never preach another sermon, he selected for his topic the watchman's responsibility. (Ezek. xxxiii. 7-9.) The cholera, which was then raging on every hand, gave intense solemnity to the subject, which was evidently

felt both by the Preacher and the people, nor was it soon forgotten. The same night he was attacked with fever, which continued with but slight intermission until the Sabbath evening following, when his already emaciated frame sank under the influence of the disease and his happy spirit entered a more genial clime. He died at Duncan's in great peace on the 1st of December, 1850, in the thirty-third year of his age and the tenth of his ministry.

That Mr. Thompson had the heart of a Missionary, will be seen from the following extract from his last letter to the Committee in London written a short time before his death: "Frequently from my late residence in St. Ann's have I seen, on a clear morning, the hills of Cuba rising in the distance; and often have I felt distressed while thinking of the eight hundred thousand slaves who are sighing in bondage there, and while reflecting upon the moral darkness and cruelty which brood over that beautiful but unhappy island, and longed for the time when it shall be open to Missionary enterprise. When that day shall arrive, and come it assuredly will, what a field will be opened for the exercise of the consecrated talent of some of our Jamaica youth, who are now being trained in our churches and schools here! To this result we should be encouraged to look forward, from the fact that we have in this island, already actively engaged, five Native Missionaries, the fruit of Missionary toil."



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SEVENTH DECADE.

1851—1860.

Thomas Talboys

WAS born at Cam. in the county of Gloucester, on the 3rd of January, 1773. When about eighteen years of age, he enlisted into the army; and he was afterwards sent with his regiment to the West Indies. Whilst resident there he attended the preaching of the Missionaries, and was deeply convinced of sin. His sorrow of heart for having so grievously offended God was deep and pungent. The pains of hell gat hold upon him, and he knew not where to look for deliverance. He was destitute of the Book of God and had no one to lead him to the Saviour. Instead of continuing his attendance at the Wesleyan chapel, he associated with a few Romanists, and went with them to "confession." But he found no relief to his burdened conscience by so doing. At length he purchased his discharge, and returned to England. There he was induced to join the Methodist Society; and in association with those who had passed through the same painful experience, before they found peace, he was enabled to believe, and the pardoning love of God was shed abroad in his heart. The young convert had no sooner realized the joys of salvation than he felt an earnest desire to lead others to Christ. After the usual process of experimental efforts and examinations he was led to consecrate himself entirely to the work of the Lord; and having offered himself for foreign service, he was appointed to the West Indies.

The first field of labour occupied by Mr. Talboys was the island of St. Vincent; but in the early part of the year 1809, having occasion to visit the colony of Trinidad, where no Mission had *been* established, he availed himself of the opportunity for mak-

ing known to the people the good news of salvation. He was bitterly-persecuted, and more than once had to take refuge at the hospitable mansion of Charles Goin, Esq., of Arima, a gentleman whom he had known when in the army. Still he persevered, vanquished all opposition, and was the means of laying the foundation of a work which has continued to advance from that day to this. After labouring three years in Trinidad and a short time in St. Kitt's, Mr. Talboys was appointed to Demerara to commence a Mission there, a previous attempt to do so having failed through the hostility of the government authorities. There also he was violently opposed, but pressed forward, and was soon enabled to report a pleasing measure of prosperity.

At length Mr. Talboys found it necessary to return to England; and the remaining period of his useful ministry was spent in the home work. In every Circuit in which he travelled he was beloved by his colleagues, and by the people of his charge; for he was a man of deep piety and of great urbanity and kindness. Cultivating pastoral habits, he visited from house to house. His preaching is described by those who heard him as "clear, pointed, faithful, convincing, and useful." When he could no longer do the full work of a Circuit, he retired as a Supernumerary; but even then he was ever ready to do his utmost to help forward the good work. During the last three years of his life he was confined entirely to the house, and reduced to the feebleness of childhood; but to the very last religion appeared to engage all his thoughts, and the Mission cause had the highest place in his affections. His religious experience was cloudless, and his end was eminently peaceful. He died at Dursley, on Sabbath morning, July 27th, 1851, in the seventy-ninth year of his age and the forty-third of his ministry.

William H. A. Dickson

Was born in London, in the year 1825, and was converted to God when he was only thirteen years of age. He soon discovered a decision of character and a steadiness of bearing far in advance of his years, and evinced an earnest desire to be a Missionary to the heathen. In the order of Divine Providence this desire was gratified; but his career was of short duration.

He embarked for Ceylon in November, 1846. On the voyage he caught a severe cold, which left fatal effects upon a constitution naturally weak. He entered upon his work, however, with high aims, and resolutely grappled with the difficulties which every Missionary to the East has to contend with. During the brief term of his labours, he prosecuted his studies, and exercised his ministry, with an energy which he could never be induced to relax, notwithstanding his increasing weakness. He was a young man of eminent piety and great promise. He walked closely with God; and his preaching, his ordinary conversation, and his very address, revealed a mind in constant intercourse with Heaven. In the latter end of 1850 a growing disease compelled him to seek relief in a change of climate. He therefore embarked for Madras, where he arrived on the last day of the year. At first there was some apparent improvement in his health, and his brethren indulged a hope of his recovery; but in the course of a few months there was a decided change for the worse, and he began to sink rapidly. During his illness his mind was fixed on God and heaven. On one occasion he said to the physician who attended him, "I have unutterable longings to be in that place where I shall never sin, or see sin." He died very quietly and happily on the 18th of September, 1851, in the twenty-sixth year of his age and the fifth of his ministry.

Joseph A. Heureaux.

The history of the Wesleyan Mission to the Republic of Hayti, in the island of St. Domingo, is of a very chequered character; but the labours of the Missionaries have not been fruitless. A few of the native converts have themselves been called to preach the Gospel to their fellow-countrymen. One of these was Joseph A. Heureaux, who was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth when about twenty years of age, and who soon gave indications of a call to the ministry. He was a young man of good education, deep piety, and superior talents; diligent and persevering in his studies, and exemplary in his life and conduct. He commenced his labours as a Missionary in 1849; but the Master soon called him to his eternal rest.

During his short day of toil his heart was evidently in his work ; and all who knew him anticipated that in him Hayti would one day possess " a burning and a shining light." He was smitten down with mortal illness when he had been engaged in the work only about two years. His sufferings were great, but he was fully resigned to the will of God. For some time before his last illness there was a manifest and remarkable deepening of the work of grace within his soul. During the whole of his agonies, and even in his highest delirium, his language was indicative of a soul clinging to the Cross. When he had lost the power to speak, he raised his hands and eyes, and, with his finger, pointed to heaven, as if to show that his hopes and his home were there. This deeply lamented young herald of the Cross died on the 2nd of December, 1851, in the twenty-fifth year of his age and the third of his ministry.

James Whitworth

Was converted to God at the early age of thirteen ; and he soon afterwards discovered an earnest desire to promote the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom to the utmost of his power. Having at length been called to the work of the ministry, he was, in 1810, sent out to the West Indies, where he continued to labour for eleven years. After his return to England he was appointed to Southern Africa, where he had laboured only three years, when circumstances occurred which resulted in his return to his native land. The remaining portion of his life was spent in connection with the home work.

It was during Mr. Whitworth's residence at the Cape of Good Hope, in 1824, that, at the risk of his own life, he nobly went on board a ship in Table Bay to render assistance to the Rev. W. Threlfall when he was prostrated by fever, when many deaths had occurred through the pestilence, and when the vessel was placed in strict quarantine. In 1845 failing health and increasing infirmities obliged Mr. Whitworth to become a Supernumerary ; but in his comparative retirement he engaged, as his failing strength would permit, in ministerial duties, until within a few days of his death. As his "heart and his flesh failed," he

expressed strong confidence in God, and some of his last words were :

“ I the chief of sinners am, .
But Jesus died for me.”

He died at Narberth, in Pembrokeshire, on the 9th of February, 1852, in the sixty-second year of his age and the forty-second of his ministry.

William Webb, 2nd,

Was born at Claydon, where he was converted to God in early life, and began to labour for the spiritual good of his fellow-countrymen according to his ability and opportunities. He was admitted into the Theological Institution at Hoxton, and passed through his course of study with credit to himself and to his tutors. At the Conference of 1838 he was appointed to the Friendly Islands, where he laboured acceptably and usefully for thirteen years. The change effected during this period in the social and moral condition of the natives throughout the entire group was marvellous ; and by the blessing of God Mr. Webb and his honoured Missionary associates were the principal human agents in its accomplishment. Mr. Webb was wholly devoted to the work of the Lord ; and he considered no labour too severe in carrying out the great objects of the Mission. He lived, accordingly, in the respect and affection of his brethren, and of the people of his charge ; and great was their sorrow when they were bereaved of such a devoted friend and brother. His illness was short and his death sudden ; and, although he underwent a severe conflict with the adversary of souls, he died in the full assurance of faith. In immediate prospect of dissolution, his mind was lifted above all earthly objects ; his “ feet,” according to his own language, were “ fixed upon the Rock.” Within a few hours of his decease, the Lord’s Supper was administered by his sorrowing brethren ; and then his soul rose triumphantly superior to every attack of the enemy. Among his last words were the following : “ There ! there ! I see the gate of heaven. Ah ! I have been looking too low. There,” he said, *pointing upwards*, “ there, all is light ; and I shall enter there.”

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He was heard again and again exclaiming with a loud voice, "I trust in the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ; and I must be safe." His last word audible to his weeping friends was, "Pray." He smiled and fell asleep in Jesus, in the island of Tonga, on Friday, March 19th, 1852, in the fortieth year of his age.

### Samuel Leigh.

Few Missionaries have attained to greater eminence than the Rev. Samuel Leigh, whose zealous and successful career is both interesting and suggestive. He was born at Milton near Burslem, Staffordshire. By reading the Holy Scriptures his mind became deeply impressed, at an early age, in regard to the final judgment and eternity: and in his fifteenth year he obtained a sense of pardon through faith in Jesus Christ. After much consideration he joined the Independent Church at Hanley, of which he became a lay helper, going out into the adjacent villages to expound the Scriptures, and exhort the people to flee from the wrath to come. In due season he was recommended to the Independent College at Gosport, and spent some time in that establishment studying for the ministry. Reading and reflection, however, led him to differ from the Calvinistic theology taught in that Institution; and he felt that Christian consistency required him to withdraw from it. He then entered into communion with the Wesleyan Methodists, was recommended to Conference, and was received on trial. He had an abiding conviction of a call to preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. Indeed the great Head of the Church had given him peculiar fitness for Missionary work. Endowed with a vigorous constitution, a cheerful and affable disposition, and a noble, disinterested generosity, he had a character which was at once transparent and attractive. His mind was quick in perception, and prompt in decision; and he was resolute in prosecuting whatever he took in hand.

In 1814 Mr. Leigh was appointed as the first Wesleyan Missionary to New South Wales. He embarked on the 28th of February, 1815, and landed at Sydney on the 10th of August. As a pioneer Missionary in the Southern world he displayed an

amount of tact, zeal, courage, and perseverance worthy of the highest commendation. He was unwearied in his efforts for the benefit of the convicts and scattered free settlers; and, by the blessing of God upon his labours and the labours of those who followed him, the foundation was laid broad and deep of that great and glorious work which has since been so successfully carried on in the Australian colonies. After a short visit to England in 1822 Mr. Leigh commenced a Wesleyan Mission in New Zealand under circumstances of peril and privation which would have daunted and perhaps foiled any man of ordinary courage and enterprise. But he pressed through every difficulty, and his perseverance was rewarded by a pleasing measure of success.

At length, in 1831, having lost his devoted wife by a fatal epidemic which visited the country, and being completely worn down by excessive labour and exposure, Mr. Leigh returned to England, and the remainder of his life was spent in connection with the home work. In the various Circuits which he occupied in this country he was noted for his love of punctuality, attention to discipline, and full devotion to his work. By no consideration of distance, weather, or inconvenience, would he suffer himself to be deterred from the fulfilment of his duties. In the spring of 1850 he was brought low by a stroke of palsy; and at the following Conference he became a Supernumerary, having travelled thirty-nine years. His remaining days on earth were marked by pain and suffering; but he was mercifully sustained under them until the Master called him. He died in peace at Reading, on the 5th of April, 1852; nearly his last words being:

“Numbered among Thy people, I  
Expect with joy Thy face to see :  
Because Thou didst for sinners die,  
Jesus, in death remember me.”

### Thomas Phelps

Was born at Rudford, Gloucestershire; but we have no particulars as to the time and manner of his conversion to God, or of his early religious history. Having been accepted as a candi-

date for the Wesleyan ministry in 1847, he was appointed to Jamaica. He arrived in Kingston on Sunday, the 18th of December, "well and happy in the prospect of soon entering on his evangelical labours." Those evangelical labours were prosecuted under many disadvantages with great zeal and diligence for a few years only, and then the devoted young Missionary was called to rest from his toils and to enter into the joy of his Lord. From an early period of his residence in the island, Mr. Phelps had severe attacks of tropical fever which often unfitted him for his duty ; but as often as he rallied he gave himself afresh to his work, and continued his labours, with occasional interruptions, till within a few weeks of his death. His amiable disposition and his habits of punctuality and industry secured for him the love and esteem of the brethren with whom he was associated ; and his brief ministry was not without fruit. His pulpit labours were acceptable ; and his diligent attention to other pastoral duties obtained for him the love of the people among whom he was stationed. He finished his course peacefully at Morant Bay, on the 13th of August, 1852, in the thirty-fifth year of his age and the sixth of his ministry.

### Thomas Cryer

Was a warm-hearted Yorkshireman. He was born at Bingley, in the year 1800. When he had reached his twentieth year, he was deeply convinced of sin, and, to use his own language, "drank deeply of the wormwood and the gall." Under the instructions of a pious sister, who happily knew the way of salvation, he found peace by faith in the blood of Jesus. He was called into the Wesleyan ministry about seven years after this event, and laboured for a few months in an English Circuit. He was then appointed to India, and embarked for that country in 1829. During twenty-two years he lived and laboured for the salvation of the heathen ; and his name will be long and affectionately remembered in the far distant East.

The principal spheres of Mr. Cryer's labours in Continental India were in Madras, Bangalore, and neighbouring Stations, where he exerted himself to promote the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom with a zeal and a vigour which have seldom

been surpassed, and which merited the highest commendation. In spite of opposition before which an ordinary spirit would have quailed,—in spite of the long delay of prosperity, which is the great and peculiar trial of the Eastern Missionary,—in spite of the most acute personal and family afflictions,—his heart was undaunted, and his faith unsubdued. In dealing with the adversaries of the Cross, he imitated those ancient Christian heroes who, abandoning all instruments of human device, drew only “the sword of the Spirit.” With this weapon he “waxed valiant in fight,” and “turned to flight the armies of the aliens.” Few of his fellow-Missionaries excelled him in the power of utterance, in the adroitness and effect with which he exposed the sophisms of the Brahmin, in the hearty indignation of his invectives against the corruptions of heathenism, or in his searching and persuasive appeals to the conscience. He determined to “know nothing among men but Christ and Him crucified.” Such a Missionary could hardly fail of winning souls; and many will be his joy and the crown of his rejoicing in the day of Jesus Christ, not only from among the natives of India, but also from among the European residents in the country.

The death of Mr. Cryer was sudden; but he was found ready. He had been appointed to Madras by the Conference of 1852, and he arrived in that city on the 1st of October. Early on the following morning he was attacked with cholera. The symptoms becoming violent and decided, he said to Mrs. Cryer: “If I should be worse, do not be concerned about me: if I cannot speak, believe that all is right.” He lingered four days, speaking but little, and bearing the struggles and uncertain variations of the disease with singular composure and resignation. To his physician he said, “How happy to be able to trust in Christ!” On the day of his death, one of his brethren asked whether he felt Christ precious. “Yes,” he replied, “very precious, not always the same, but always precious.” As his life was fast ebbing away, prayer was offered in his behalf. He devoutly followed the petitions, as they ranged from him to the bereaved Mission, the Church, and the heathen; and his frequent and deep “Amen” attested that this dying servant of God still clung to the interests of his Master’s work. In a few minutes he expired without a struggle or a groan, on the 5th of October, 1852, in the fifty-second year of his age and the twenty-fourth of his ministry.

## William Squire

Was born at Broughton, near Bath, in the year 1795. Blessed with a Christian parentage, he was early taught to fear and love God. At the age of fourteen he surrendered himself to Christ, and experienced a change of heart. After successively filling some of the subordinate offices of the Church, in 1821 he was called to the full work of the ministry. Preferring the Missionary department of the work he offered himself for foreign service, and was appointed to the West Indies where he laboured for four years. His health at length seriously failed, and he was obliged to take refuge in the less trying climate of Canada. He reached Quebec in the autumn of 1825, and in the course of a few months was so far restored as to be able to occupy a Station in that arduous field of labour; which, with scarcely a week's intermission, he was permitted to cultivate for twenty-seven years. During this comparatively long period of active service he was in "labours more abundant," visiting and preaching to the scattered settlers in their distant locations, instructing the rising generation, and superintending the work of God in all its departments.

As a Preacher Mr. Squire was faithful, pointed, powerful, and eminently successful. It is perhaps not beyond the truth to say, that thousands were brought to God by his labours. As a Pastor he made his name long fragrant in his various Circuits. He was equalled by few and surpassed by none in his diligent care for the flock of Christ. He possessed in an eminent degree the respect of the community at large, the love of his people, and the esteem of his brethren. He also enjoyed the full confidence of the Missionary Committee, which was evinced by his being twice appointed General Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions in Canada. He held this office at the time of his death. He was moreover eminently pious. It might be truly said of him that he "walked with God," and held constant fellowship with Heaven. He was called away in the midst of his work, after but a few hours' illness. He died of Asiatic cholera after ministering to a fellow-victim of the same disease, on the 17th of

October, 1852, in the city of Montreal, in the fifty-seventh year of his age and the thirty-second of his ministry. Some of his last utterances were, "I have no fear."

"Happy, if with my latest breath  
I may but gasp His name;  
Preach Him to all, and cry in death,  
'Behold! behold the Lamb!'"

### Jason Chatterton

Was the descendant of pious ancestors. The same "unfeigned faith" by which he was characterized at an early period, had dwelt in his family for generations; and from a child he knew the Holy Scriptures which were able to make him wise unto salvation by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. By the blessing of the great Head of the Church on religious training he was early converted to God, and led to devote himself fully to the service of the Church. Whilst a mere youth he worked with diligence in those departments of usefulness which Wesleyan Methodism opens to its adherents, and when called by the Holy Ghost to the work of the Christian ministry he obeyed. Having usefully employed his one talent, he received a recompense for the same in his own soul, and felt an earnest desire to impart to his perishing fellow-men the unsearchable riches of Christ. The sacred bonds of friendship seemed likely at one time to hold him fast to his native land; but the attractions of Him who had been "lifted up" on the cross prevailed in separating him for foreign service. He offered himself willingly for the Mission field; and when the Conference had accepted him, Missionaries, Mission Stations, the wide world, the millions of heathens, the urgency of their need and their imminent peril, filled his mind day and night until he was actually engaged in the work. He was appointed to Barbadoes, and reached his destination in the month of December, 1851. He was "a burning and a shining light;" and many of the sable sons and daughters of Ham, in Barbadoes and Tobago, where he exercised his attractive ministry, rejoiced for a season to walk in the light. *But alas!* the season was short indeed. During the prevalence

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of yellow fever he was suddenly seized with it, and in the course of a few hours was numbered among the victims of the fell destroyer. He died in peace at Barbadoes, on the 29th of October, 1852, declaring with his departing breath that to him Christ was "all and in all."

### William Rotherham

In early life experienced the grace of God. His assurance of acceptance with Him, through faith in Christ Jesus, was at once followed by a desire to make the Saviour known to earth's remotest bounds. Having vowed unto the Lord, he did not look back. He made known his readiness to leave friends and country in the cause of Christ; and the Ministers of the Circuit in which he lived and laboured having satisfied themselves as to the heavenly origin of his convictions, and as to his qualifications for the work, recommended him to the Conference, by which he was accepted as a probationer, and appointed to the West Indies. He embarked for his destination in 1850; the perils of a protracted voyage were many and imminent; but no word of regret for the country he had left behind escaped his lips. He landed in St. Vincent's, a favoured sphere of Missionary labour; and there he was received and appreciated as "a messenger of the Churches." His labours were owned by God and made acceptable to His people. By the District Meeting of 1852, he was appointed to Barbadoes, where he was universally beloved and rendered very useful during the short period of his labours. On the 28th of November, he was seized with yellow fever, which proved fatal in a few days. He was graciously sustained in his last illness by the presence of his Saviour, and he died in peace on the 1st of December, 1852, sincerely regretted by all who knew him.

### Harman Mason

Was an intelligent and promising young Minister who was appointed to Honduras in Central America, in the year 1851. He entered upon his work in the town of Belize with extraordinary zeal and earnestness; and his journal shows that his



pulpit ministrations and pastoral labours in visiting from house to house were signally blessed by God to the spiritual good of many. There is reason to believe that, had his life been spared, he would have been an eminently successful Minister of the Gospel. But it pleased the Great Head of the Church to call him to rest from his labours when his day of toil had only just begun. He had been unwell for some time and had just returned from a voyage to the island of Ruatan taken in the hope of improving his health, when, on Thursday the 30th of December, 1852, he was attacked with yellow fever, several cases of which had appeared in the town. The disease advanced rapidly; and on the 3rd of January, 1853, the fifth day of his illness, he exchanged time for eternity. During his sickness, though mostly delirious, he gave proof that he was prepared for a better world. His funeral was attended by at least a thousand of the inhabitants; and the members of Society, at their own expense, procured a marble tablet, to be placed over his grave, as a mark of high esteem.

### Richard Ridyard

Was another excellent young Missionary cut down by yellow fever during the year in which it was so prevalent in the West Indies. The story of his career is truly affecting. He arrived in the Mission field on the 9th of October, 1851, and entered on his labours in St. Vincent's with an evident determination to live for his Divine Master's glory. With true spirituality and untiring zeal he combined great physical energy; and all his powers were brought into full play as he unfolded the great truths connected with the redemption of the world. To preach the Gospel was his chief delight; and to win souls to Christ was the all-absorbing desire of his heart. Few men of greater promise have opened their commission in the Mission field: bright hopes were entertained that he would long live and labour, and that his toils would be rewarded by the turning of many from darkness to light. But these anticipations were soon blighted; and many who once listened to his voice have wept over his early removal. The state of mind in which he received the last summons is pleasingly indicated by his own

testimony, recorded a short time before his lamented decease. On hearing of the death of a friend he wrote as follows: "I have been led by the saddening tidings to hold more communion with my own heart. I have brought myself to the testing-place, and felt, more than ever it was given me to do before, that Christ's atonement is the most precious thing in the universe. All seems shadowy but *that*. All else will betray but *that*. *THAT* cannot! *THAT* does not. O my own God! may it be mine in the final hour to feel that this atonement is *mine*! I ask nothing more. I need nothing else. This does satisfy my soul now, and will satisfy my soul for ever." Soon after penning these impressive lines Mr. Ridyard was smitten with the fatal disease which had hurried so many out of time into eternity; and although during the few days of its continuance he was not able to say much, being most of the time delirious, doubtless the precious atonement was all-sufficient in the trying hour. He was released from his sufferings, and entered into the joy of his Lord, on the 16th of January, 1853, sincerely regretted by his brethren in the Kingstown Circuit, by whom he was greatly beloved.

### Samuel Pritchard.

Among the numerous victims of the fatal yellow fever which raged in the West Indies in 1852-3, was the Rev. S. Pritchard, who had been but a short time in the country. He was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth in 1843, and was thenceforth earnest in his efforts to win souls for Christ. In 1852 he entered upon his labours as a Missionary in the island of St. Vincent, having been appointed to the Biabou Circuit. During the brief period of his public labours he gained the affectionate regard of both Ministers and people. He was seized with the malignant disease on the 23rd of February; and, when told by his medical attendant that his symptoms were most unfavourable, he said that he had "long been preparing for it;" that he had been "led to believe that a poor sinner, coming to the atonement of Christ, would not be rejected by God;" that "about ten years ago he had gone to that atonement," and he "believed he was then pardoned and accepted by God." He

had "believed in that atonement ever since; he believed in it now, and was not afraid to die." The sacrifice of Christ was the grand theme of his public addresses, and he now realized its preciousness and efficiency. While partaking of the Lord's Supper on the Saturday before his death, he expressed himself as having a happy sense of the presence of Christ as his Saviour. While some of the people of his charge stood weeping by his bed, he exhorted them to live to God, and meet him in heaven: adding that he had longed to come to the West Indies; and that now, though his work was cut short and he must soon die, he was not sorry he had come. This he repeated several times. He continued in this happy and peaceful state of mind until the morning of February 28th, 1853, when he fell asleep in Jesus, and passed away to his eternal rest.

### John Felvus

Was born at New Martin, in Shropshire. His mother was a pious woman, who, after some years of thoughtlessness on his part, had the happiness of seeing him give his heart to God in early life. He was deeply convinced of sin while returning one night from the theatre, and began to seek the Lord with all his heart. The following day he obtained peace with God, by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Having found mercy himself he yearned for the salvation of others, and immediately after his conversion expressed to his mother a desire to become a Missionary. He laboured for several years as a Local Preacher; but during that time he was deeply convinced that it was his duty to offer himself as a Missionary to the West Indies. His way at length having been opened, he was proposed and accepted as a Missionary candidate; and shortly afterwards, in November, 1819, he sailed for the West Indies, to which he had been appointed according to his desire. The principal scene of his labours was in the Leeward Islands. He was stationed successively in Nevis, Tortola, Dominica, and Antigua, and in every place his plain and pointed ministry was made a blessing to the people. His preaching united affectionate tenderness with bold rebuke and evangelical fidelity. Affliction, persecution, and the various trials of Missionary life he endured with Christian for-

titude and cheerfulness. With a winning disposition, and a heart breathing the most tender concern for others, he lived in the affections of the people; whilst many who had been opposed to Missionary work previously were, by his truly Christian efforts, won over to the side of friends. When he had laboured for about thirteen years in the West Indies, the failure of his health obliged him to return to England, where he occupied several Circuits in subsequent years. His last Station was Appleby, where, in 1848, compelled by increasing infirmities, he retired as a Supernumerary. He afterwards removed to Richmond, in Yorkshire, where he had not resided long when the last summons came. He died suddenly, on the 4th of March, 1853, in the fifty-sixth year of his age and the thirty-fourth of his ministry.

### John P. Ellison

Was appointed by the Conference of 1848 to a Station in the West Indies. His few years of Missionary labour were spent chiefly in the island of St. Vincent, where, by his zeal and diligence in the work to which he was devoted, and his kind and genial manner in his intercourse with the people, he gained the respect and esteem of all classes of the community. From his apparent fitness both of body and mind for the sphere in which he was engaged, his friends and brethren anticipated for him a long and useful career; but their hopes were suddenly cut off. He was on his way from the District Meeting to his Station at George Town, and had halted at Biabou, about twelve miles from his home, when he was suddenly seized with the yellow fever. So rapid was the course of the dire disease that on the fourth day he sank under its influence, and died in peace, on Monday, the 24th of March, 1853, in the fifth year of his ministry. In their official record of this mournful event, Mr. Ellison's brethren say of him that "he had laboured with zeal, diligence, and success, during his short term of service in the Mission field. His piety was steady and fervent, and his attachment to Methodism was strong. In his death the Society has lost a valuable agent, while thousands mourn his early removal."

## Benjamin Clough

Was a famous Missionary in his day, and his long and useful career possessed many features of special interest. He was born at Bradford, Yorkshire, in the year 1791. When he was about twelve years of age he attended the weekly meetings for young people held by the Rev. John Crosse, the celebrated Vicar of that town. By the blessing of God upon the advice and prayers of that venerable Minister, Mr. Clough was convinced of sin and of his need of a Saviour. At the age of seventeen he united himself to the Wesleyan Methodist Society, and not long afterwards found peace with God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. The change wrought in him was manifested in its appropriate fruits, especially in his zeal for the salvation of his fellow-men. He delighted in attending prayer-meetings in the neighbouring villages, occasionally giving a word of exhortation. Soon he began to preach, and was made useful to many. His character and labours endeared him greatly to the people of God in Bradford and the neighbourhood; but many saw that he was designed by the great Head of the Church for a wider sphere of usefulness. At length he was recommended to Dr. Coke as a suitable travelling companion in his projected Mission to the East. From the very first interview the Doctor was pleased with his decision and promptitude; and he was accordingly chosen, not only as one of the six Missionaries who were to accompany him, but as a special friend and confidant. The Mission party, with Dr. Coke at their head, embarked at Portsmouth for India, on the 31st of December, 1813. During the early part of the voyage Mr. Clough was in constant communication with and attendance upon his venerable friend; and great was his consternation and that of his Missionary associates, when their leader was so suddenly and unexpectedly taken from them. In their perplexity Mr. Clough cheered his companions by his steadfast faith in God, and took a leading part in all their counsels. On reaching Ceylon he set to work with characteristic zeal and earnestness; and he ultimately became one of the most eminent Missionaries of modern times. Having learned the native languages he compiled two valuable diction-

aries, English and Singhalese and Singhalese and English, which were published at the expense of the Government, and have been of incalculable use to his successors in the Mission. He also took a prominent part in the translation of the Scriptures into the Singhalese and Pali languages. As a Preacher to the natives he was zealous and successful; and many will be the crown of his rejoicing in the day of the Lord. He was ardently attached to the Mission work, and twice returned to it after brief visits to England for the benefit of his health.

After twenty-five years of devoted labour and much suffering, Mr. Clough was constrained by the enfeebled state of his health to bid a final and reluctant farewell to Ceylon; but after his return home he still retained his Missionary spirit, and was ever ready to plead the good cause from pulpit or platform. After labouring fourteen years in the home work, at the Conference of 1852, he retired as a Supernumerary, and settled in London near Southwark chapel, in which he had been solemnly set apart for the work of the Christian ministry. There he continued to labour as his strength would permit, and his genial spirit and able preaching greatly edified the people of God, and much endeared him to them. They had hoped that a protracted and tranquil decline would follow his long period of active service; but his own special desire was granted by his removal to a "better country" before he became quite helpless. His death was somewhat sudden. He almost literally "ceased at once to work and live." He died in peace on Wednesday, the 13th of April, 1853, in the sixty-second year of his age and the fortieth of his ministry.

### William B. Wildish

Was a young Minister of considerable promise, who was appointed to Jamaica in September, 1851, and safely arrived at his destination in the following month. His brief but pious and useful career ended about eighteen months after he landed in the island. He died of yellow fever, after a week's illness, in the city of Kingston, on the 19th of April, 1853. In his last sickness he was graciously supported by the presence of the Lord, and gave the most satisfactory testimony of his confidence

in the great atonement, and that he was ready to depart and to be with Christ. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord : for they rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

### John A. Martin

Was one of a goodly number who, as the fruit of Missionary labour, have been raised up from time to time in Western Africa, to preach the Gospel to their fellow-countrymen. "He was unobtrusive in his manners, meek and quiet in spirit ; and Christian courtesy seemed to be a part of his very being. He read extensively and thought much, and exhibited on almost all occasions good judgment as well as good information. His duty as a Native Minister appeared to be to him a source of deep enjoyment ; and, in the consecration of his various talents and acquirements to serve the Church, he became a popular and useful Preacher." He died suddenly at Lagos, on the 8th of June, 1853, in the thirty-seventh year of his age and the seventh of his ministry. On the evening before his death he was apparently well, and conversed with one of the school teachers as late as nine o'clock, when they separated and retired to rest. He was found the next morning in a state of insensibility. When restored to consciousness, he waved his hand, apparently as though he would say, "Farewell," and immediately expired. In his death the Mission suffered a great loss.

### James Hutchinson

Was another victim of yellow fever during the year in which it was so general and so fatal in the West Indies. He had accompanied the Rev. H. Cheesbrough to the Bahamas only a few months previously, and had been appointed to the Abaco Circuit. There he commenced his labours in the true Missionary spirit, and soon acquired in no ordinary degree the confidence and affection of the people among whom his lot was cast. A gracious influence, moreover, accompanied his plain and pointed ministry, and he was the honoured instrument in the

hands of God of promoting a blessed revival of religion. He was proceeding happily and usefully in his beloved work, when he was suddenly smitten down by the fell destroyer. He died in peace at his post of duty on the 25th of August, 1853, sincerely and deeply regretted by all who knew him.

## William Fowler

Was a zealous and talented young Minister, who, at the Conference of 1837, was appointed to Hayti, and who for nearly sixteen years faithfully and diligently laboured in Hayti and St. Domingo. For the greater part of that time he resided in the town of Puerto Plata, and in consequence of the hostility subsisting between the Empire and the Republic he was cut off from all personal intercourse with his brethren, and subjected to many and grievous privations both personal and domestic. But, notwithstanding all, he fulfilled his course with the most commendable courage and perseverance. His work was his delight, and the varied duties of his peculiar position, which involved teaching and preaching in English, French and Spanish, besides other exercises, he discharged with conscientious care and fidelity. His death was a fitting close to a holy and devoted life. For him the last messenger had no terrors. Shortly before he expired, his affectionate wife inquiring whether he had any fear, he replied, "No, no; all is glory! glory! glory! nothing but glory." He added, "Sing, sing the praises of God!" and began to sing with as much strength as he could command. Those in the room joined in singing:

"My God, the spring of all my joys," etc.;

and a few minutes afterwards his happy soul left the clay tenement, and "soared away to mingle with the blaze of day." He died on the 25th of August, 1853, in the forty-second year of his age and the sixteenth of his ministry. Mr. Fowler was a fine specimen of a large class of humble, plodding, faithful, persevering Missionaries who cling to their posts of duty and press forward in their work amid numerous difficulties and trials understood only by those who have to experience them.



### John E. S. Williams

Was appointed to India in 1845. The principal scene of his labours, whilst resident in the East, was in the North Ceylon District, where by diligent study he soon became an efficient Preacher in the Tamil language, and laboured to the utmost of his power to promote the interests of the Mission in all its departments. He appeared in every respect fitted for evangelistic work among the Hindus, and his brethren anticipated for him a long and useful career in that part of the Mission field ; but, in 1851, domestic affliction rendered it necessary for him to return to England. In 1852 he was appointed to the Coolies in British Guiana, who were then being imported from India in large numbers. There his knowledge of Tamil and of the Hindu character was called into full play for a little time. On the 17th of August, 1853, he travelled to Berbice, and preached at New Amsterdam a sermon of remarkable unction and power. The next day he was seized with malignant fever, which soon ran its fatal course ; for, on the 27th of the same month, he entered into the joy of his Lord, in the thirty-second year of his age and the eighth of his ministry. He was a man of more than ordinary energy, zeal, and devotedness to God. Christianity was early in life established in the convictions of his mind ; and his confidence never failed. In disputation—the Hindu's favourite resort—he was more than conqueror. When he died it was truly said, especially in regard to his relation to the Coolie emigrants, “ A prince and a great man is fallen this day ! ” A chastened grief pervaded the colony, and all classes of persons bewailed the public loss in his removal.

“ His God sustained him in his final hour,  
His final hour brought glory to his God.”

### Alexander J. Thompson

Was a native of Nassau, New Providence, in the Bahama District. In early life he was converted to God, through the instrumentality of the Wesleyan Mission. Having been made

happy in the pardoning love of God himself, he felt an earnest desire to make known to his fellow-countrymen the good news of salvation. After acting for several years in the capacity of a Local Preacher, he, in 1845, was called into the regular work as an Assistant Missionary. His health was never robust ; but with ordinary care he was able for some time to serve the Mission with acceptance and success. At length his health failed, and, after he had suffered much affliction in the Eleuthera and Abaco Circuits, where he was successively stationed, a change to the United States became necessary. On his return to the Bahamas, he was appointed to the Turk's Island Circuit, where his naturally feeble constitution yielded in a few months to the pressure of disease, and he died, much lamented, on the 27th of September, 1853. During his painful and lingering illness, he was graciously comforted and supported by that Gospel which he had faithfully preached to others ; and he passed away in hope of everlasting life.

## Henry Andrews

Was converted to God in early life ; and soon afterwards, compelled by love to souls, obvious openings of Providence, and the call of the Church, he began to call sinners to repentance. It pleased God to render his efforts signally successful in promoting the conversion of sinners in his own neighbourhood. When called to enter the Mission field, he promptly responded ; and, having been appointed to a Station in the West Indies, he left England in December, 1852. Soon after reaching his destination, which was San Fernando, in the island of Trinidad, he wrote an interesting letter to the Missionary Committee, dated April 23rd, 1853, in which he says : " Having now safely arrived and taken possession of my Station, I take the earliest opportunity of writing to you. Strange and mysterious have been the scenes that I have been called to witness during the little time that I have as yet been in the West Indies. I have had to behold the fearful ravages of disease and death, and to weep over the graves of my beloved brethren, who have been thus early called to their reward. It was with feelings of a sorrowful and solemn character that I took my leave of St. Vincent's,

and, in entering upon my work at this Station, I dedicated myself afresh to God, determining that my spared life should be given unreservedly unto Him, and, whatever my hand might find to do, to do it with my might, as I know not how soon my work on earth may terminate, and I be called to give an account of my stewardship. When I was at St. Thomas's on board the 'Derwent,' on my way to St. Vincent's, the purser of the vessel was dying, more of the crew were down with the yellow fever, and news of the most alarming character was constantly arriving. Then I found the name of the Lord to be a strong tower, to which I could resort and feel myself safe. And when standing by the dying bed of Mr. Ridyard, my peace remained undisturbed." In a postscript Mr. Andrews added: "I regret to say that the yellow fever has just made its appearance both here and at Port of Spain. I trust we shall still experience a continuance of the Divine protection."

The devoted Missionary continued to prosecute his work with his wonted zeal and diligence for about six months after the date of this letter. During that time he was surrounded by sickness and death, for the yellow fever was spreading on every hand. At length he was attacked, and soon fell a victim to the fatal malady. He at first expressed a strong desire to live a little longer for the sake of the people; but he soon became quite resigned. He died in peace on the 30th of October, 1853, in the twenty-fifth year of his age, deeply regretted by his brethren in the ministry and by the people of his charge, who were left in the wilderness as sheep having no shepherd.

### James Booth

Must be remembered among the many quiet, plodding, persevering Missionaries, of whom little is known beyond the immediate sphere of their personal labours, but whose record is on high. He entered upon Mission work in the wilds of Canada in the year 1816, and prosecuted it diligently and faithfully, without intermission, till advancing years and growing infirmities compelled him to retire from active service. His view of the claims and importance of the work will appear from the following extract of a letter addressed to the Missionary Com-

mittee from Odell Town, under date of August 4th, 1823 : " This country wants labourers ; but the people are poor, and the state of your funds, you say, renders you unable to supply its wants. I am fully aware that the conversion of entire heathens is of the first importance ; but is it not always easier to prevent heathenism than to remove it ? How many hundreds of our fellow-countrymen have emigrated to Canada, and, from the want of means to procure better situations for their families, are obliged to go into the wilderness, where there is no priest, nor temple, nor place of worship to which they have access ; and, being destitute of money, they have no means to obtain a Minister ! The consequences must be bad. The new settlers mix with others whose consciences are hardened ; and by and by the Sabbath is neglected, and fishing, hunting, and shooting, etc., are their employments on the Lord's day. My Circuit is comprised of five townships, and in four of them there is not a single Minister of any denomination stationed."

In this spiritually destitute region Mr. Booth spent a long and laborious Missionary life, and, by the blessing of God, he saw a wonderful change. He had also a rich reward in his own soul. Writing to the Missionary Committee a short time before his decease, he says : " I am now living a day at once ; and I am striving with all my powers to be ready when the Lord shall call me. Thank the Lord, my soul is happy in a sense of my acceptance with God, and a lively hope of a safe arrival at my heavenly home. Bless the Lord, O my soul, for all His mercies to me ! Truly the Lord is my God, and I will praise Him." He died in peace at Kingston, in Canada, on the 22nd of January, 1854, in the seventy-third year of his age and the thirty-eighth of his ministry.

### James Atkins

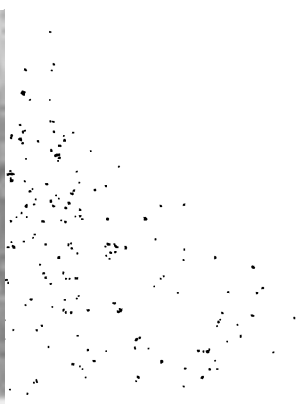
Was born at Salisbury, in 1808, and became a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society when seventeen years of age. He was converted to God under the ministry of the Rev. Isaac Bradnack. Having found mercy himself, he became solicitous that others should enjoy the same blessing ; and he went forth in the name of the Lord to exhort his fellow-countrymen to see

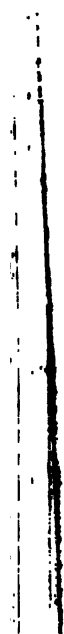
from the wrath to come. In 1826 he began to work as a Local Preacher. At the Conference of 1830 he was appointed to the Pembroke Circuit. He afterwards laboured in the Tenterden and Ipswich Circuits. At the place last named, the present writer became personally acquainted with him as a beloved colleague, and learned to esteem him very highly in love for his work's sake, and the numerous excellencies of character which he possessed.

In 1834 Mr. Atkins went as a Missionary to Jamaica. In various Circuits in that island he laboured with zeal, diligence, and success for nearly twenty years. He was very kind and affectionate in his intercourse with the people of his charge; and his brethren reposed in him the utmost confidence as a faithful, laborious, and useful Missionary. His pulpit abilities were of a very respectable order; and his labours were blessed in the salvation of many souls. During the last year of his life he passed through severe and protracted sickness; but he bore it with remarkable patience and resignation to his Master's will, and gave evidence of readiness for a better world. He died at Kingston, Jamaica, on the 24th of January, 1854, in the forty-sixth year of his age and the twenty-fourth of his ministry, "in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ."

### Walter Oke Croggon

Was a native of Penryn, in the county of Cornwall. His parents were pious members of a Baptist Church, and he received a religious education. His mind was frequently affected by Divine truth, and his conscience at least partially awakened in very early life. It was not, however, until he reached his nineteenth year that he was made deeply to feel his need of the converting grace of God under a sermon by the Rev. John Woodrow. He now became decided, joined himself to a Wesleyan Methodist Class Meeting, and, to use his own words, resolved to seek until he found "the knowledge of salvation by the remission of sins." He soon was made unspeakably happy in the pardoning love of God. He at once became anxious to publish to his fellow-men that Gospel which had been







REV. WALTER CROCKETT  
ZANGL

Printed by DICK & CO., a Great Britain of Zangl, in Philadelphia, 1840.





made the power of God to his own salvation ; and he felt that he was called by God to the work of the ministry ; and the conviction was strengthened by the fruits of his labours. At the Conference of 1817 he was appointed to a Circuit. His abilities in the pulpit, his knowledge of the world, his amiable qualities and lively disposition, with an equal measure of courage and prudence, combined to fit him for any sphere that he might be called to occupy.

During the greater part of his public life Mr. Croggon was employed in the work of Missions, to which he was ardently attached. Few men were better adapted for this service ; for he could happily accommodate himself to all the contingencies of foreign life, and to the variety of Missionary duties. He was ever ready to preach the Gospel in any place, the road-side, the cottage, the deck of a ship, the barrack-room, the school-house, and the church being all alike to him, so that he had the opportunity of calling sinners to repentance, and of leading them to faith in Christ. In France and Greece he laboured for some time with zeal and diligence, and if the results were not equal to his ardent desires, or to the expectations of his friends, it cannot be said that he laboured in vain, or spent his strength for nought. He afterwards spent fourteen years in Ireland as the Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions and Schools. His literary acquisitions were considerable. He was a diligent student, and the letters and other articles which he contributed to the "Missionary Notices," and the "Magazines," from time to time, gave ample evidence of his mental ability and his devotion to his work. His death, which occurred on the 30th of January, 1854, was in beautiful harmony with his devoted life. He met the last enemy as one fully prepared for the event, calmly resigning himself into the hands of his Saviour. His last days were spent in prayer and praise, and some of his last words were :

"The whole creation join in one  
To bless the sacred name  
Of Him that sits upon the throne,  
And to adore the Lamb."

## David Kerr

Was born in Edinburgh, in the year 1793. Though he had some advantages of education and religious training, yet for more than twenty years he lived a stranger to vital godliness; but, under the influence of Methodism, he became deeply convinced of sin, and obtained peace and joy through believing. Soon after his conversion he was made the Leader of a Class; and after some time he began to preach. Having offered himself for Missionary service, he was accepted by the Conference of 1824, and appointed to the island of Jamaica, where he continued to labour for the comparatively long period of twenty-nine years. His heart was fixed upon his great work, and he regarded his appointment as having been directed by the special providence of God. For some time he suffered much from both personal and family affliction; yet nothing could induce him to seek to change his field of labour. Though naturally of a retiring disposition, he possessed a burning zeal for the salvation of his fellow-men. In times of persecution and danger he stood firm, and on several occasions "hazarded his life for the name of the Lord Jesus." From his natural modesty he often felt embarrassed in the presence of his brethren; but he never quailed in the presence of an adversary. To his colleagues in the ministry he was uniformly generous and obliging, and to the flock of Christ faithful, laborious, and affectionate. He was an able Minister of the New Testament, "rightly dividing the word of truth." His gifts in prayer were remarkable; and while he was leading his congregation to the mercy-seat, many felt as if they were under the very wings of the cherubim. His whole deportment in the house of God was strikingly expressive of his sense of the responsibility of his office. The great Head of the Church gave him many souls, who will be the crown of his rejoicing in the day of the Lord. His death was sudden; but it cannot be doubted that he was ready for his great change. He was seized with malignant cholera at St. Ann's Bay, on the 14th of June, 1854, and after an illness of only eight hours he entered into the joy of his Lord in the sixty-second year of his age and the thirtieth of his ministry.

## William Bannister.

The writer of these sketches never had a more generous, devoted, or affectionate Missionary associate than the Rev. W. Bannister; and it is with deep emotion that he pens this humble tribute to his memory. Mr. Bannister was born at the village of Draycot, in Staffordshire, on the 10th of March, 1804. At a very early period he felt the strivings of the Holy Spirit; but he had reached the age of twenty-one, when, sitting under the ministry of the Rev. Enoch Wood, he fully yielded himself to the Lord, and became firmly established in the faith and hope of the Gospel. He soon afterwards began to officiate as a Local Preacher, and was made a blessing to many in the neighbourhood of his native place.

In 1830 he emigrated to British North America, and was for some time engaged in secular pursuits in the city of St. John, New Brunswick. Having connected himself with the Wesleyan Methodist Church there, he spent his evenings in the company of Christian friends, and in attending various meetings with a view to receiving and doing good, as he had opportunity. He also exercised his gifts as a Local Preacher. Here he met with his spiritual father, the Rev. Enoch Wood, by whose counsel and advice he was led in 1833 to relinquish his worldly business and to devote himself to the work of the Christian ministry. In 1837, when he had completed his four years of probation, he visited England chiefly from failure of health. After his return to North America, his health being still delicate, the Committee removed him to the more congenial climate of the West Indies, where he laboured for many years as a faithful and successful Missionary.

When he joined us in the St. Vincent's District, the vast population which had so long been held in abject slavery was just emerging into the enjoyment of freedom, at the termination of the so-called "apprenticeship;" and he took a most active and energetic part in extra work which was required at the hands of the Missionaries to meet the emergency. This work consisted not merely in the faithful preaching of the Gospel to crowded congregations, but also in building and enlarging

chapels and school-houses, in establishing free Negro villages, in organizing Friendly Societies, and in promoting in every possible way the temporal and spiritual welfare of the people in their new circumstances. The spheres of Mr. Bannister's zealous labours were chiefly in St. Vincent, Grenada and Barbadoes, in all of which islands he was highly esteemed both by his brethren in the ministry and by the people among whom he laboured. While resident at Biabou, in the island of St. Vincent, he had a narrow escape from being drowned while bathing ; and, as he regarded his deliverance as having been brought about by the special providence of God, it had a very salutary effect upon his mind, constraining him to a renewed dedication of himself to the service of the Lord.

On the death of the Rev. John Cullingford, in 1846, Mr. Bannister was appointed Chairman and General Superintendent of the St. Vincent's District, the duties of which office he faithfully discharged during the last eight years of his life. He was pursuing his beloved work with his wonted zeal and diligence when the Asiatic cholera visited the West Indies with such fatal results ; and, after exerting himself in the most praiseworthy manner on behalf of the sick and dying, he was himself at length numbered among its victims. Two of his children had died during the week, and on the Sabbath the bereaved servant of God repaired to the sanctuary with a bleeding heart, and preached from that impressive passage : " It is the Lord : let Him do what seemeth Him good." This was his last sermon, and this was his last Sabbath upon earth. He was himself attacked by the fell destroyer during the following week, and, after enduring the most excruciating pain with patience for some time, he was released from his sufferings. He died at Barbadoes, on the 9th of July, 1854.

### George P. Brown

Was one of a considerable number of native Africans who have been from time to time rescued from slavery in their youth, trained in our Mission schools, converted to God under the preaching of the Missionaries, and ultimately called to preach the Gospel to their fellow-countrymen. Having given proof of

genuine piety and superior mental ability, Mr. Brown was first employed in the subordinate capacities of school teacher and catechist ; and acquitting himself well in these positions, he in 1850 was promoted to the more honourable and important office of Assistant Missionary. He was a man of an excellent spirit, who lived very near to God, and was exemplary in the domestic relations. His preaching talents were acceptable and his conduct as a helper in the Gospel was satisfactory. He died in great peace at Cape Coast, Western Africa, on the 17th of August, 1854, in the forty-fifth year of his age ; and the respect and affection with which he was regarded was testified at his funeral by the attendance of the Governor-in-Chief, with his official staff, and other principal persons of the colony, together with a multitude of people who made great lamentation over him.

### James Bartholomew

Was born at Northwich, in Cheshire, in the year 1802. In early life he was the subject of Divine impressions ; and, having sought and found peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, he joined the Methodist Society in Sheffield in the sixteenth year of his age. Believing that he was called of God to the Christian ministry, he offered himself to the Wesleyan Conference, and was appointed to Alexandria, in the year 1829. He travelled in Egypt and Palestine as a Christian Missionary for five years ; after which he returned to England, and was employed in the ministry at home for twenty years. His preaching was marked by great simplicity ; and his acquaintance with Oriental manners and customs furnished pleasing illustrations of many passages of Scripture. His health at length failing, he became a Supernumerary at the Conference of 1854, and settled at Gloucester. For several months before his death his health had been declining, and he departed this life in peace, on the 9th of September, 1854, in the fifty-second year of his age and the twenty-sixth of his ministry. In his last sickness those who attended him received many assurances that he was free from the fear of death ; and that he placed all his trust in the Lord Jesus Christ as his Friend and Saviour.

## Benjamin Carvosso

Was the son of the venerable William Carvosso, whose piety, zeal, and success as a Methodist Class Leader, are well known in all our churches. He was born at Gluvias, in the county of Cornwall, September 27th, 1789. The eminent piety of his parents exercised a powerful and permanent influence on his mind from his infancy ; so that he was remarkable during his boyhood and youth for steady and high-toned morality. But notwithstanding these advantages, he remained a stranger to the converting grace of God until the twenty-second year of his age, when he became deeply penitent and obtained a clear sense of pardon. He continued ever afterwards to enjoy the witness of the Spirit. His improvement was thenceforth uniform and rapid ; and his piety was distinguished by fervour, consistency, and strength. At the Conference of 1814, he was received as a probationer for the Wesleyan ministry. After five years of successful labour in England, he was constrained to offer himself to the Missionary Committee, and was sent to Australia.

He landed in New South Wales in 1820 ; and in Sydney, Windsor, Paramatta, and other places he ministered the word of life for some time. He afterwards removed to Van Diemen's Land, where five years before, when on his way to his first Station, he had introduced Methodism. Here his labours were arduous and incessant ; in the pulpit, the prison, the Prayer-meeting, the Class-meeting, or the family, he was constantly engaged. Nor were his efforts fruitless ; many souls were saved through his instrumentality, and some extraordinary trophies of redeeming love were won by his persevering labours, even from among the debased convict population ; while his "pure benevolent desire" to do good to all gained him the respect of all classes, and gave great moral power to the infant Church of that colony, and embalmed his memory in the hearts of many.

A return to his native land having been deemed necessary, he laboured at home from 1830 until the Midsummer of 1854, when a severe attack of sickness almost at once took away his power to labour. His last illness was of a most distressing kind, and pain and feebleness of body were connected with long and

severe temptation. But in his deepest distress he obtained a perfect and glorious victory ; and during the last three weeks of his life his peace and joy abounded. He died in peace at St. Ives, on the 2nd of October, 1854. As a Christian Mr. Carvosso was remarkable for the simplicity of his manners, the fervour of his piety, the spirituality of his conversation, and the purity of his life. As a Minister he sought by careful study, as well as by constant and mighty prayer, to become a workman that needed not to be ashamed. His preaching was distinguished by richness of evangelical matter, sound exposition, and practical application. He was, moreover, diligent with his pen in the service of the Church. In conjunction with his brethren he commenced the first Magazine published in Australia, and after his return to England he prepared for the press excellent memoirs of his sainted father and his beloved son, besides contributing many valuable articles, from time to time, to our Connexional periodicals.

### Timothy Curtis.

Few Ministers have served the Wesleyan Missionary Society more steadily and faithfully for a long period than the Rev. T. Curtis, although his useful career was not marked by the stirring incidents which characterized the Missionary lives of some of his contemporaries. He was a native of Yorkshire, and began to serve the Lord in early life. His call to preach the Gospel was clear and satisfactory to his own mind ; and having offered himself for foreign service in 1830, he was sent to Jamaica, where he laboured diligently and successfully for twenty-three years. He was a man of eminent piety ; and his ministry was owned of God in the salvation of many souls. " Grave, simple, and sincere," he created at once a salutary impression of his character and office wherever he moved. None mistook the man of prayer and the messenger of God ; and those who valued religion loved and venerated him. When the Asiatic cholera raged in the island he was attacked with the dreaded malady ; but, with the blessing of God upon the means employed, he survived whilst many fell. Soon afterwards, however, he sank oppressed with manifold afflictions, not the least of which, in



the opinion of his brethren, was the lack of that spiritual prosperity in his Circuit for which his heart so earnestly yearned. On this account he spent many nights and days in grief and prayer, when in a state of great bodily weakness. At length he was called to rest from his labours and sorrows. He died in peace at Falmouth, Jamaica, on the 24th of December, 1854, having on that day reached the forty-ninth year of his age.

### Joseph Wright

Was a native of the Yoruba country, in Western Africa. Having been dragged away as a slave in his boyhood, he was rescued from bondage with many others by a British man-of-war, and taken to Sierra Leone. There he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth under the preaching of the Missionaries and trained in the Mission school. When it became evident that God intended him for His special service, he was sent to the Theological Institution, where he conducted himself with great propriety and profited largely under tuition. He afterwards laboured as an Assistant Missionary for ten years in Sierra Leone, and it was hoped that he would be long spared to serve the good cause ; but it was otherwise ordered. While on a visit to his aged parents at Abbeokuta he was seized with severe illness, and he died on the 7th of June, 1855, at Lagos, on his way home. He was a man of fervent piety and untiring zeal in the service of God, and his end was peace.

### Samuel M'Dowell,

When very young, was brought to seek the Lord, and became a partaker of the grace of life by faith in Christ Jesus. While yet a youth he was appointed a Class Leader and Local Preacher ; and in Dromore, Ireland, his native town, and the surrounding country, he was engaged for several years in exhorting sinners to seek the salvation which he himself enjoyed. In 1808 he was appointed, under the direction of Dr. Coke, to Newfoundland ; and, although the rigours of the climate subjected him to much

suffering, he endured "hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." At the end of six years he came back to England, spent one year in the Ipswich Circuit, and then returned to his native land, where he laboured in several Circuits, and on the Irish Mission, until, in consequence of severe family bereavements, added to the privations to which he was exposed in his work, his health gave way; and in 1848 he yielded, reluctantly, to retire as a Supernumerary. For some time he continued to labour as his enfeebled health and strength would permit; but for the two years before his death he rather languished than lived, and during the last two months he rapidly sank. His ministerial gifts were of no common order; but his characteristic humility made him shrink from that position in the Church to which his talents would otherwise have entitled him. In whatever place he lived and laboured he was respected and beloved, not only by the people of his charge, but by all classes, lay and clerical, of other Churches. He was a man of unspotted integrity and great fidelity; of an amiable disposition and kind and conciliatory manners. In him were happily blended firmness of purpose, ardent zeal and untiring patience. He also possessed a cheerfulness of spirit, which greatly sustained him in passing through more than forty years of toil. The same grace which enabled him to bear the cross in the field of action, was pre-eminently manifest in his last protracted and painful illness. He was then sustained by faith in the Redeemer and animated by an unclouded hope of heaven. "Firm as a rock I stand," he would exclaim. "My only trust is in Christ,—the atoning blood." His loving spirit passed into its eternal rest on Saturday, the 11th of August, 1855, in the seventy-sixth year of his age and the forty-eighth of his ministry.

### James Kerr

Was the son of the Rev. David Kerr, for many years a laborious and successful Wesleyan Missionary in the island of Jamaica. He was blessed with Christian nurture and in early life was led to give his heart to God, and to walk in the footsteps of his godly parents. After having been for some time a successful teacher of youth, he was called to the Christian

ministry. In the year 1850 he received an appointment to a Circuit in Jamaica,—the land of his birth, endeared to him by many associations. He laboured in that island with diligence and efficiency for six years, and gave promise of increased usefulness; but his career was unexpectedly cut short, and the anticipations of his friends in a measure disappointed. He was seized with malignant fever which rapidly ran its fatal course, and he died in peace on the 23rd of August, 1855, in the twenty-ninth year of his age, much regretted by his brethren in the ministry and the people of his charge.

### John Renier

Was a native of Alderney, one of the Channel Islands. He was converted to God in the seventeenth year of his age through the instrumentality of the Wesleyan Ministers in his native isle. He immediately joined the Methodist Society. A few years after his conversion he began to preach the Gospel; and, in the year 1830, his name appeared on the Minutes of Conference as an Assistant Missionary. In this capacity he laboured in several parts of France with considerable success. In 1837 he was stationed in Guernsey; and from that time he was constantly engaged in the French work in the Channel Islands. The highest testimony is borne to the excellency of his Christian and ministerial character by those who knew him personally. His piety was exemplary, and he possessed superior pulpit talents. He had a correct knowledge of Methodist doctrines, and was faithfully attached to the discipline of the Church of his choice, which he judiciously and kindly maintained, sometimes amidst circumstances of great trial. In 1852 he was seized with an affection of the heart, which afterwards occasioned him some difficulty in fulfilling his ministerial duties. At the Conference of 1855 he was again appointed to the island of Guernsey. On Sunday, October 7th, he preached three times, and did not appear much exhausted; but he was taken ill on the Friday following, and continued in great suffering, but with patient endurance and undisturbed calmness, until his death. "The joy of the Lord was his strength." Being in great agony, on Tuesday, October 23rd, he suddenly exclaimed to his daughter, who

was attending him, "Pray to the Almighty ; He alone can relieve me ;" when, finding himself sinking, he sat down, and in less than two minutes breathed his last, in the seventy-second year of his age and the twenty-sixth of his ministry.

### John Bell, 2nd,

Was born at Hull, on the 19th of October, 1788. He became a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society at the age of fourteen ; but it was not until he had reached his twenty-first year that he obtained a clear sense of the Divine favour. At that time the Wesleyan Society in Hull was in a high state of spiritual prosperity : the services on week-day mornings at five o'clock, as well as those on the Lord's day, were regularly crowded with devout worshippers, and were hallowed by the Divine presence. Under the constraint of the love of God, Mr. Bell began to call sinners to repentance soon after his conversion ; and in the year 1811 he was received as a probationer for the ministry. After three years of acceptable labour in English Circuits he offered himself to the Missionary Committee ; and in a time of great emergency he was sent to Newfoundland, where he laboured with considerable success for seven years. He returned to this country in 1822, and continued devoted to the sacred duties of his high calling until growing infirmities obliged him to retire from the more active duties of the ministry. His preaching was distinguished by simplicity, perspicuity, and power. The essential truths of the Gospel were proclaimed by him with deep feeling, and accompanied with rich unction. He was faithful and affectionate in the discharge of his pastoral duties, and he lived in the affections of the people. The close of life was marked by keen and varied afflictions ; but in him tribulation wrought patience, and quickened his hope of glory. Exercising unshaken trust in the great Atonement, he calmly resigned himself into the hands of God, and died in great peace on the 26th of October, 1855, in the sixty-eighth year of his age and the forty-fifth of his ministry.

### Francis P. Gladwin.

The Rev. F. P. Gladwin was a native of Derbyshire, where in early life he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth through the instrumentality of Wesleyan Methodism. He was appointed to an English Circuit in 1836. After three years spent in the home work he offered himself for the foreign service, and was appointed to Southern Africa. He and his devoted wife, early in the year 1840, entered upon their work at the Clarkebury Station, in the country of the Amatembu. Mr. Gladwin soon acquired such knowledge of the Kaffir language as to be able to preach in it ; and he laboured with diligence and success in winning souls to Christ from amongst various tribes of the Kaffir race. During his residence at Clarkebury and Butterworth, he also paid great attention to the advancement of civilization among the people of his charge ; and when two successive wars unhappily broke out between the Kaffirs and the Colonists, the people manifested their attachment to him by remaining, on both occasions, peacefully under his care. Amidst many and great alarms and dangers, he continued faithfully at the post of duty ; but he was obliged, in 1852, to leave Butterworth, and to accompany the British army on its return to King William's Town, in British Kaffraria ; and he was afterwards appointed to the Mount Coke Circuit, where he continued to labour until he finished his course.

For several years Mr. Gladwin prosecuted his arduous labours in Kaffirland with little interruption from sickness ; but on his return from the District Meeting in Graham's Town, in the latter part of 1855, he was seized with a severe illness which in a short time proved fatal. When his friends became aware of the serious character of his disease, he was so entirely prostrated that he could not speak of his state of mind. He died in peace on the 30th of December, 1855, in the forty-ninth year of his age and the nineteenth of his ministry. The general respect in which he was held was evinced at his funeral, at King William's Town, which was attended by the Chief Commissioner, and other public functionaries of British Kaffraria, as well as by many of the respectable European and native inhabitants.

## Jonathan Crowther.

Ministers of more than ordinary eminence have sometimes left important spheres of usefulness at home and gone to distant lands to superintend foreign Missions. Such was the Rev. J. Crowther, whose useful career was marked by several features of special interest. He was the son of the Rev. Timothy Crowther, and was born at St. Austell, Cornwall, on the 31st of July, 1794. The careful instructions and fervent prayers of his excellent mother were, by the Divine blessing, the principal means of his early conversion to God, which was as clear and decided as it was enduring in its effects. He was educated at Kingswood School, where he gave early promise of his future eminence as a scholar. Under a deep conviction that he was "called of God" to preach the Gospel, he began, about the age of twenty, to publish the glad tidings of salvation. In 1823 he was appointed head master of Kingswood School, having previously filled the same office for some time at Woodhouse Grove. Subsequently he was stationed in several important Circuits in which his ministry was truly edifying and useful, securing the affection of the people at large, and the admiration of an extensive circle of friends.

In the year 1837, in the maturity of his life and mental vigour, Mr. Crowther was requested by the Committee to undertake the general Superintendency of the Missions in India. His prompt compliance with this call was a fine example of submission to the claims of duty, and of zealous devotedness to the cause of Christ, in a department which imposed upon him abundant labours, and exposed him to formidable perils. He encountered shipwreck, privation, suffering, and all the exhausting influences of a tropical climate. In the discharge of his arduous duties in India he fully justified the confidence which the Committee had reposed in his judgment, learning, and experience. He commanded the affection and esteem of the brethren under his charge, and conferred important benefits, both direct and collateral, on the cause of Christian Missions in the Presidency of Madras.

In 1843 Mr. Crowther returned to England, and resumed his

labours in the home ministry. In 1849 he was appointed to Didsbury College as Classical Tutor; and he occupied that position during the remainder of his life. But his efforts to promote the welfare and prosperity of the Church of his choice were by no means confined to the Theological Institution. His hours of leisure were filled up by greatly diversified labours. He handled "the pen of a ready writer," and his valuable services were in frequent requisition. The Conference, the Mission House, the Educational establishments, and the periodical literature of the Body, all shared the benefit of his willing service. On the 31st of December, 1855, when at the house of his friend the Rev. W. Willan, of Leeds, Mr. Crowther was suddenly attacked by congestion of the brain; but, by the blessing of God on the means employed, he obtained relief. About two weeks afterwards, however, the most alarming symptoms set in, and he rapidly sank into a state of unconsciousness. Throughout his affliction he manifested the maturity of his Christian character, and all that he uttered in his moments of consciousness showed the devout exercises of his mind. His last words were, "I am thankful." Early on the morning of January 16th, 1856, his conflict ceased, and he entered into his heavenly rest. He was in the sixty-second year of his age and the thirty-third of his ministry.

### Alexander Mansie

Was, in his early days, a strenuous advocate for the peculiar doctrines of Calvinism, and, in theory at least, an Antinomian. While searching the Scriptures for arguments to uphold his tenets, he was led by the Spirit of God to discover his own lost state, and his need of a Saviour. Without delay he sought, and soon found, "the pearl of great price." Having received a clear knowledge of acceptance with God, he found his former doctrinal views yielding to a full and hearty persuasion of the freeness and the universality of God's love for the human family. He at once became united to the Methodist Society, and was, after the usual probation, admitted to the ministry. Having offered himself for the foreign work he, in 1837, received an appointment to Demerara, where he was the successful com-

petitor for a prize of eleven hundred guilders, offered by the planters for the best Essay on the "Education of the Emancipated Negroes." He cheerfully gave the money to the Missionary Society. He was not without a liking for controversy, but his pulpit labours were characterized by earnest fervent zeal for the conversion of his hearers. He returned to the home work in feeble health, and eventually died of consumption. That Gospel which he had preached to others sustained his soul in all stages of his decline; and in the last struggle, as often before, he repeatedly said in cheerful confidence, "All is right between me and my Saviour." He died at Ayr on the 23rd of March, 1856, in the twenty-second year of his ministry.

### William Barrowclough

Was one of several zealous young Ministers who nobly offered themselves as Missionaries to Western Africa at different times, and who fell a sacrifice to the climate. He arrived in Sierra Leone towards the close of 1855, and he had been in the country only a little more than three months when he was smitten down with malignant fever, which proved fatal in the course of a few days. He died in peace, at Free Town, on the 3rd of April, 1856, beloved and lamented by all who knew him. It is recorded that he was a young man of deep piety and promising gifts, and that he would no doubt have been a very acceptable and useful Missionary had his life been spared a little longer.

### James Stewart Thomas.

The Rev. J. S. Thomas was a native of South Wales, where, as the child of zealous Methodists, he enjoyed special religious advantages. He was converted to God at the early age of twelve; and, while yet a youth, was engaged as a Prayer Leader and Local Preacher. Having been called to the full work of the Christian ministry and offered himself for foreign service, in 1838, he received an appointment as a Missionary to the warlike Kaffirs of Southern Africa. He was endowed with some gifts which specially qualified him for the peculiar work



of a foreign Mission. Possessing remarkable powers of memory, and great facility in the acquisition of languages, he speedily acquired a fair knowledge of the Kaffir tongue, and, in a comparatively short time, was able to speak and preach in it with ease and fluency. By these means he soon obtained considerable influence with both chiefs and people, by many of whom he was held in high esteem. Having been successively appointed to three important Stations in Kaffirland, he displayed much firmness, tact, and courage during the perilous and perplexing period of two Kaffir wars, which followed each other in rapid succession. He was called to endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, and he did not shrink from his duty. He was indefatigable in his Missionary labours. He took a part in the translation of the Scriptures into the Kaffir language; and at one period of his career especially his efforts to win souls for Christ were greatly owned and blessed of God. Many heathens were converted, and on their profession of faith in Christ were baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity.

Mr. Thomas was often "in perils among the heathen," and experienced some remarkable deliverances; but on his removal with a number of natives to Beecham Wood, just at a time when a feud between two hostile tribes was raging in that neighbourhood, the Station was attacked during the night. He arose hastily from his bed; and going at once to the cattle kraal,—the place of conflict,—no doubt with the hope of preventing the effusion of blood, he was stabbed by one of the hostile natives, and died a few minutes afterwards, thus adding another name to the melancholy but honourable list of Wesleyan Missionaries who, by exposure to unhealthy climes, by shipwreck, or by the hand of violence, have sacrificed their lives in the service of the Gospel. He died on the 14th of June, 1856, in the forty-second year of his age and the eighteenth of his ministry.

### Richard Davis Griffith.

It is recorded of Mr. Griffith that in early infancy he was dedicated to God by his parents, and made the subject of solemn and earnest prayer by Ministers of the South Wales District. who were entertained at his father's house in Swansea a few

days after his birth. He began to preach at an early age ; and, when still a youth, he had to choose whether he would engage in a prosperous business or devote himself to the work of the Christian ministry. The Rev. James Buckley took a deep interest in him, and advised him as to the choice which he should make. He was accepted as a candidate for the Wesleyan ministry ; and at nineteen years of age he entered on his course of study in the Theological Institution, then recently established. After two years of preparation he was appointed, in 1836, to India, and, in the early part of the following year, accompanied the Rev. Jonathan Crowther to Madras. The vessel in which they sailed was stranded, and became a complete wreck on the coast of Coromandel, but no lives were lost, and the Mission party reached their destination in safety.

The Missionary career of Mr. Griffith fulfilled the promise of his early education and piety. He was able to preach to the natives in their own tongue soon after his arrival in India ; and, by diligent application, he ultimately became well acquainted with Hindu literature ; and all his acquirements were made tributary to his chosen employment of preaching the Gospel to the heathen. As his range of knowledge was extensive, so was his religious experience mature and deep. His preaching, whether in English or in Tamil, was always attractive and useful ; and many were the seals of his ministry, both on the continent of India and in the island of Ceylon. He was earnestly attentive to the interests of the young, both in the congregations and in the schools, and was greatly beloved by the lambs of his flock. Whilst in the midst of his useful occupations in the Madras District, and when maturing plans of usefulness for the future, he was disabled by a malady which threatened to be fatal. A return to England seemed to afford the only hope of recovery ; but soon after he had accomplished his voyage and seen his family and friends, he was again prostrated by the disease which proved to be the summons to his eternal rest. Having the impression that his complaint was incurable, he often said that it was better to die than to live to be useless. His sufferings were not permitted to disturb his comfort and joy of faith. He died in peace in London, greatly lamented by his family and friends, on the 29th of June, 1856, in the forty-third year of his age and twenty-second of his ministry.

## William Tapley Weymouth

Was called to the work of the ministry in 1833. After labouring for two years in an English Circuit he received an appointment as a Missionary to the West Indies. He exercised his useful and instructive ministry in various Circuits in the Antigua District for the comparatively long period of twenty years, without intermission, with the exception of two or three months when he paid a visit to England. His brethren in the ministry, who knew him well, record to his honour that "his views of theological truth were comprehensive and sound; his discourses were expository and practical; and, though calculated rather to instruct and edify Christian believers than to awaken sinners, yet, in many instances, he was instrumental in turning men 'from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God.' He amassed considerable stores of varied information, which his ingenious and eminently practical mind made subservient, in many ways, to the higher duties of his sacred calling, and to the general advancement of the cause of God. His edifying ministry, his assiduity in pastoral visitation, his great kindness and skill in affording medical aid, as well as spiritual consolation, to the sick members of his flock, especially to the poor, and his indefatigable exertions in the erection and enlargement of chapels, combined to gain for him the grateful and affectionate regard of his people."

Mr. Weymouth's last Circuit was St. Kitt's, where his untiring devotion to his people, when the cholera was raging on every side, and his success in rescuing many from that awful pestilence, commanded universal admiration. After two years of faithful labour in that Circuit his vigorous constitution broke down beneath the responsibilities and perplexities of his position. During his last illness he often expressed his confidence in the great atonement, and said, "All is well; I have no doubt as to the safety of my soul; I am going to heaven." He died on the 23rd of August, 1856, in the forty-sixth year of his age and the twenty-fourth of his ministry, sincerely regretted by his brethren and the people of his charge.

## James Henry Cheeswright

Was a promising young Minister, whose race was soon run. Having been highly favoured in his parentage and education he became the subject of converting grace in his sixteenth year ; and from that time he exerted himself in every possible way for good to his fellow-men. He was called to the work of the ministry when quite young, and, in 1853, cheerfully offered to go abroad as a Missionary to the heathen. He was appointed to the West Indies, and entered upon his work with sanguine hopes of success. Nor was his short career without profit. He overcame many difficulties, conciliated the hostile, strengthened the feeble, and aroused the careless. Had his life been spared he would probably have risen to distinction ; but after three years of faithful service he was called to his eternal rest. He died at Puerto Plata, St. Domingo, after a few days' illness, on the morning of August 14th, 1856, in the twenty-sixth year of his age. The nature of his complaint precluded a dying testimony ; but that of his holy life suffices.

## Thomas Protheroe

Was favoured with pious parents, and was led in early life to seek and find the Saviour of sinners. His whole mind and heart were absorbed in the subject of the Christian ministry. After a year of preparatory study he proceeded, in the autumn of 1855, to Jamaica. During the short period of his labours there he manifested an earnest concern for the salvation of souls, and was diligent in the discharge of his various ministerial duties. His preaching was plain, earnest, and acceptable ; and his attention to the sick and the young greatly endeared him to many. He was mercifully supported by Divine grace during his last sickness, which was of a most painful character. He died at Kingston, of yellow fever, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, on the 5th of September, 1856. In communicating the mournful intelligence of the death of this zealous young Minister, the Rev. Joseph Webster says : " The loss of our dear

brother to this Mission, and especially to the Kingston Circuit, will be great indeed. His kindness and zeal had won for him the affection of all, and a wide field of usefulness was before him ; but his work is finished, and the weeping Church must bow with submission to the Divine will. Such mysterious events as these are trying to our faith ; but ' what we know not now we shall know hereafter.' "

### George Harding Decker

Was a native of Western Africa,—one of a goodly number who have been raised up from time to time on the Mission Stations to preach the Gospel to their fellow-countrymen. Having been converted to God in early life at Sierra Leone, through the instrumentality of the Missionaries and trained in the Mission schools, he entered the ministry in 1848. He was endowed with good capacity and some excellent gifts ; and laboured diligently in his Master's work for eight years. He died triumphantly happy in God, on the 23rd of February, 1857. The day before his departure he was asked, " Have you much pain ? " He replied, " No ; I only feel pain in one place ; but I feel that

' Labour is rest, and pain is sweet,  
If Thou, my God, art here.' "

At another time he said, " I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." He was a man of simple manners and a liberal disposition, living only for the honour and glory of God and the good of His cause ; and he died in the thirty eighth year of his age, respected and lamented by his friends and brethren.

### Daniel West.

In the estimation of some the Rev. Daniel West may not be regarded as a Missionary in the proper sense of the word ; but as he finished his course when on a special Mission to Western Africa, we have a mournful pleasure in enrolling his name among the honoured men who have cheerfully laid their lives on

the Missionary altar. Mr. West was an eminent Wesleyan Minister who had spent twenty years in the home work when he was requested by the Missionary Committee and the Conference to go out as a Deputation from the Society to the Gold Coast to inspect and report on the state of the Missions there. He cheerfully responded to the call of the Church ; and in 1856 embarked for Western Africa. He had nearly completed his important work, and had turned his face homeward apparently in tolerable health, when he was attacked with the fever which is so prevalent and so fatal on the coast. He had reached St. Mary's on the River Gambia, on his homeward voyage, when thus arrested. After a few days' illness he was released from his sufferings and entered into the joy of his Lord. He died in peace at Bathurst on the 24th of February, 1857. On the night before his death, he said to one of the Missionaries, " I have never forsaken God, and He has never forsaken me ; " and with his expiring breath he was heard to repeat, in a faint whisper, the following lines :

" 'Tis Jesus, the First and the Last,  
Whose Spirit shall guide me safe home."

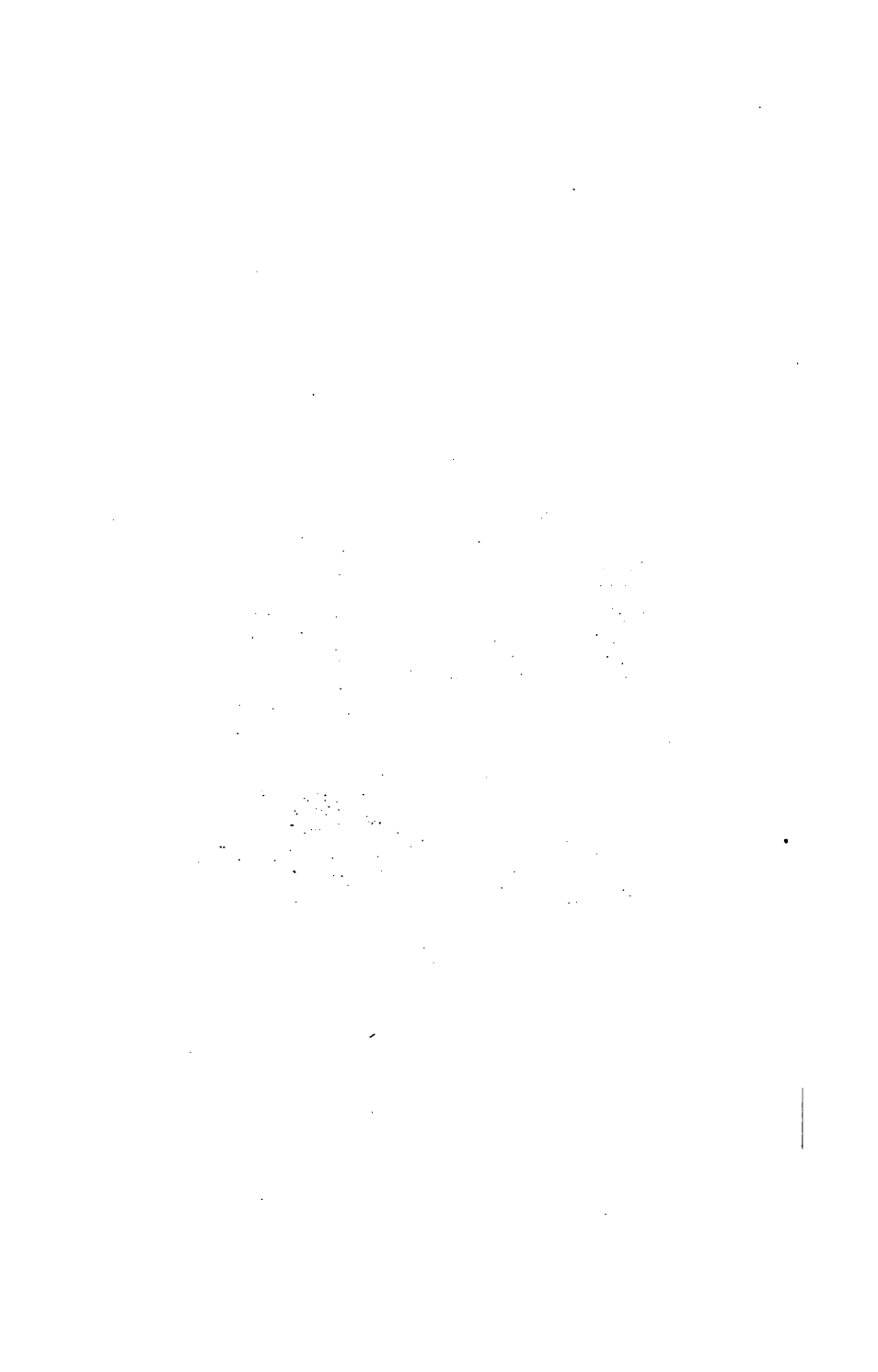
### William Ritchie.

There never was a more simple-minded, pious, devoted, and persevering Missionary than the Rev. W. Ritchie. I first became personally acquainted with him in 1830, when he arrived in London from Derbyshire, his native county, to prepare for his embarkation for Western Africa, for which he had nobly offered his services. He went out to Sierra Leone early in the following year ; and the spirit in which he entered upon his work will appear from a brief extract from his first letter, dated the 5th of April, 1831 : " My dear brother, I have this day received the welcome intelligence of your safe arrival at the Gambia ; and it gives me pleasure to hear that you are in health and happy in your work. May the God of all grace crown your efforts with abundant success. I arrived at this interesting Station on the 18th of March, after a pleasant passage, during which I had an opportunity of preaching to the seamen every Sabbath day. I find the Africans a very affectionate people. They received me

as though I had been an angel from heaven. I cannot describe my feelings the first time I preached to a black congregation. The people appeared far more respectable and intelligent than I could have supposed. The thought of the importance of my work had well nigh caused me to weep, and to sink under my load : but He who had promised never to leave me enabled me to speak with boldness in His name. I hope to hear from you often. In the meantime let us, in all our efforts to extend the kingdom of Christ, hide ourselves behind the Cross and boldly proclaim Him who died for all, and we shall see sinners saved and Jesus exalted." This communication was followed by several others during the two years that Mr. Ritchie spent at Sierra Leone, all of which breathed the same spirit of zeal and devotedness to God.

Soon after our return to England, Mr. Ritchie was sent out to Jamaica, and I to Demerara. In 1843, when my friend had laboured in Jamaica for nine years, circumstances occurred which in the opinion of the Committee rendered a change necessary, and to my great surprise and delight he was appointed as my colleague in the island of St. Vincent. Here we laboured together in harmony and love for about two years, during which we had many happy seasons of social and Christian fellowship, and the Lord greatly blessed our united efforts to promote the interests of His kingdom.

In 1847, my dear friend and I met once more in London, when we rejoiced to find our hearts beating as true as ever in genuine Christian friendship, and in attachment to the cause in which we were engaged. He was on the eve of returning to the West Indies, and some time afterwards I embarked for the Cape of Good Hope ; so that we were henceforth more widely separated than ever, and were never favoured to meet again in this world. When Mr. Ritchie had continued his useful labours in the West Indies for ten years longer, his health totally failed, and he sought to recruit it by visiting once more his native land. His heart was still in the Mission work, and he intended soon to return to Tortola where he had left his family. But he was not permitted to do so. His master saw fit to release him from his labours and sufferings, at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on the 29th of May, 1857. He was a diligent and useful labourer in the Lord's vineyard ; of a humble mind, pleasing manners, amiable







*Yours Truly*  
*B. Shaw*

disposition, and upright conversation. As a Preacher he was plain, earnest, practical, and affectionate ; and as a Pastor, faithful and assiduous in his attention to the sick, the young, and the poor ; whilst as a friend he was kind-hearted, sympathizing, and unwavering in his attachment. " He was a good man, and full of faith and of the Holy Ghost."

### Barnabas Shaw

Was born at the village of Elloughton, in Yorkshire, on the 12th of April, 1788 ; and his early days were spent in tending his father's sheep and other similar rural occupations. Whilst quite a youth he was brought under religious influences, gave his heart to God, and became a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society in his native village. He soon discovered talents for usefulness and was employed in holding meetings for the religious instruction of his fellow-countrymen, many of whom were at that time in a fearful state of spiritual darkness. He had exercised his gifts as a Local Preacher for some time ; when, in 1810, he was received as a probationer for the Wesleyan ministry. For five years he laboured in the home work, and then offered himself as a Missionary to the heathen. It was first intended that he should go to Madagascar to attempt the introduction of Christianity there ; but that projected Mission having been relinquished in favour of another Society, he was appointed to the Cape of Good Hope. He landed in Cape Town with his heroic wife on the 12th of April, 1816 ; and finding the same difficulties still existing that had prevented the Rev. John M'Kenny from exercising his ministry the year before, he embraced an opportunity which presented itself soon afterwards, and proceeded to the interior where he established the Khamiesberg Mission in Little Namaqualand. This was the first Wesleyan Mission Station in Southern Africa ; and, having been commenced when the enterprise was comparatively new, it excited great interest. Barnabas Shaw and his Mission to Namaqualand became household words in many a Methodist home, and the simple and touching narratives of his proceedings, which the devoted Missionary sent home for publication from time to time, helped to keep alive the interest which had been kindle

and to give him and his work a measure of popularity above that which fell to the lot of other pioneer evangelists.

When Mr. Shaw had laboured in South Africa about eleven years, he paid a visit to England. During his stay in this country on that occasion he delighted the friends of Missions with his artless narratives of toils and triumphs; and, having collected funds to aid in the erection of a new chapel in Cape Town, he in 1830 returned to the scene of his former labours. The second period of Mr. Shaw's labours at the Cape of Good Hope extended over seven years. He returned to his native land once more in 1837, and spent a few years in the home work. In 1843 he and his family embarked for South Africa for the third and last time, the veteran Missionary having decided upon ending his days in the field of his early toils and triumphs.

It was in the early part of 1851 that I, on being appointed to the charge of the Cape of Good Hope District, became personally acquainted with Mr. Shaw, and from that time we lived not only in the same neighbourhood, but in the closest bonds of Christian friendship. The working days of the venerable Missionary were drawing to a close. He had been spared to see the work he had commenced in his youthful vigour extended and prosperous beyond his most sanguine expectations, and to secure the high respect of the community in which his ministrations were at first forbidden. In 1854 he was compelled by advancing years and increasing infirmities to become a Supernumerary, and his remaining days were marked by pain and suffering. He bore up, however, with Christian patience and fortitude till the Master called him. He died in peace at Mowbray, near Cape Town, on the 21st of June, 1857, in the sixty-ninth year of his age, and the forty-seventh of his ministry.

[See the author's interesting memoir of Mr. Shaw recently published at the Conference Office.—EDITOR.]

### Miles C. Dixon

Was born at Broughton-in-Furness, in 1786. He was brought under religious influences in early life, and earnestly desiring to "flee from the wrath to come," joined the Methodist Society

in 1805. Shortly afterwards, while reading Burkitt's *Notes on the New Testament* (Romans viii.) he obtained a clear assurance of his adoption into the family of God. Saved himself, he at once became concerned for the glory of Christ and the salvation of souls. At the Conference of 1809 he was received into the ranks of the Wesleyan ministry, and solemnly set apart for the sacred office. In the November following, having offered himself for the foreign work, he embarked for the West Indies, where he spent seven years in arduous and successful Missionary work. His ministry in several of the islands was signally owned by God in the conversion of sinners, hundreds of the people being "turned from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God," through his labours. Following him on some of his Stations many years afterwards, especially in Grenada and St. Vincent's, we heard the old members speak with much feeling of his kindness, diligence and zeal. In 1816 he returned to England and entered the home work. He laboured until 1850, when, by reason of an attack of paralysis, he was obliged to retire as a Supernumerary. His sufferings were severe and complicated; but he bore them with resignation and submission to the will of God, and even with holy gratitude and cheerfulness. Trusting in Christ alone for salvation, he was sustained and comforted by the Holy Spirit to the last. His reading was extensive; the Bible was his favourite book; and the law of the Lord was his delight. His religion was marked by simplicity, catholicity, and completeness; and his end was peace. He died at Hanley, on the 26th of October, 1857, in the seventy-first year of his age and the forty-ninth of his ministry.

### Thomas Murray

Was born at South Shields, in the year 1796. He was blessed with a pious training, and converted to God when about fourteen years of age. Having laboured for some time as a Local Preacher, and given evidence of considerable ability and of fitness for the holy vocation, he was admitted in 1822 into the ranks of the Wesleyan ministry. From the beginning his heart was drawn towards the foreign work, and his first appointment

was to the West Indies. There he laboured with the most exemplary zeal and diligence for twelve years. He suffered much from affliction and bereavement ; but he bore it all with patience and with resignation to the will of God. He exercised his ministry during the trying times of slavery, and had to endure persecution and imprisonment for Christ's sake, being frequently placed in circumstances of peril ; but he conducted himself with so much prudence and fidelity, that even his enemies were constrained to acknowledge that he was a man of God.

In the year 1834 he returned to his native land, and was thenceforth employed in the home work. He laboured for twenty years in different English Circuits ; in all of which he was highly esteemed by his colleagues and the people to whom he ministered. His piety was deep and uniform, and as a Minister of the Gospel he was diligent and affectionate. His preaching was plain, evangelical, and useful ; and in administering discipline, he combined judicious kindness with unbending firmness. In 1854, his health having failed, he settled at Tunbridge Wells as a Supernumerary. There he cheerfully employed his remaining strength in leading a Class, in preaching, and in advocating the cause of Missions, to which he was ardently attached. As the close of life approached he frequently expressed his joyful hope of heaven through the infinite merits of his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He died in peace in November, 1857, in the sixty-second year of his age and the thirty-sixth of his ministry.

### James Pilley

Was born in the Rotherham Circuit in the year 1799. In his twentieth year, during a gracious revival of religion, he was powerfully awakened, and shortly afterwards obtained a clear sense of pardon through faith in Christ Jesus. Having offered himself for foreign service, he was appointed in 1829 as a Missionary to the Mosquito Shore, Central America, where he remained more than four years, enduring great privations, but encouraged by seeing some fruit of his labours. His health failing he was compelled to return to his native land ; and, as soon as he was able to do so, he entered the home work. He

laboured diligently in various Circuits in this country for twenty-four years. Nor were his labours in vain in the Lord. His piety was deep and uniform, influencing the whole of his deportment ; and in many places where he exercised his useful ministry there were witnesses "how holily, and justly, and unblameably," he "behaved himself" among the people of his charge. He paid special attention to the poor and the afflicted of Christ's flock, sympathizing with them, and ministering to their wants according to his ability. His discourses were clear and practical, and often accompanied with much Divine power. He so preached as to convince the careless and edify believers ; and many will be the crown of his rejoicing in the day of the Lord. His death was in beautiful harmony with his holy life. Just before his departure he was asked if he found the Saviour precious ; and he replied, "I have peace, resting in Christ." He passed from the earthly to the heavenly Sabbath, on the 6th of December, 1857 ; expiring at Castle Carey, Somerset, in the fifty-ninth year of his age and the twenty-ninth of his ministry.

## William Binning

Was born in the Hornsea Circuit, and was converted to God at the age of fifteen. He soon began to call sinners to repentance, and was made useful to many. After labouring for some time as a Local Preacher he offered himself for the ministry, and was accepted by the Conference of 1817. Being willing to labour in any part of the world where it was thought he might be most useful, he was sent to the West Indies ; and he laboured faithfully and successfully there for nine years. Writing to the Committee from Spanish Town, Jamaica, on the 22nd of October, 1819, he says : "I cannot but acknowledge the gracious Providence, by which I have been so wonderfully preserved in my removal from the north side of the island to this place. In crossing over, in connection with a visit to Grateful Hill, I suppose the journey could not be much short of two hundred miles, and most of the way I travelled on horseback, which is very distressing in this country, especially at this season of the year. Our prospects here, all things considered, are gratifying. The people are, many of them, much alive to God, and at

for the fulness of the Gospel of Christ. Since our quarterly visitation a few have begun to meet in Class on trial, and we have a prospect of more in a short time. Our congregations are good, respectable, and deeply attentive. I enjoy much comfort in dispensing to them the bread of life, and find an increasing desire for their welfare. Yes, blessed be God, my heart is enlarged towards them, and I am frequently constrained to cry :

‘Extend to these Thy pardoning grace,  
To these be Thy salvation showed;  
O add them to Thy chosen race !  
O sprinkle all their hearts with blood ! ’ ”

At length the health of Mr. Binning failing, he returned to England, and as soon as possible entered on the home work, in which he exercised his useful ministry for more than thirty years. It is said of him by those who knew him personally that “ his heart was under the influence of the Gospel, and his mind was imbued with sound theological truth. His preaching, like his character, was distinguished by simplicity, faithfulness, and energy ; and God honoured his labours with success.” Although his health was permanently injured by his labours in the West Indies, he ever afterwards felt peculiar satisfaction in reflecting that he had been so employed. His last affliction was extremely painful ; but he was sustained by the grace of his Saviour. “ I have no joy,” he said ; “ but I have confidence and peace.” He departed this life on the 7th of December, 1857, in the sixty-seventh year of his age and the fortieth of his ministry.

### William Martin Harvard, D.D.,

Was a talented, prominent, and influential Missionary, and his laborious and honourable career was marked by incidents worthy of special notice. It was under the powerful appeals of Benson, Griffith, Clarke, and others, that he was convinced of sin ; and in the days of his youth he attained, through saving grace, the knowledge which is life eternal. Called in 1810 to the ministry, he early consecrated his services to British India,

and along with five others accompanied the venerable Dr. Coke on his eventful journey to that country in 1814. When that prince of modern Missionaries was suddenly called away before the party reached their destination, on Mr. Harvard devolved the mournful office of committing his remains to the mighty deep. When the bereaved Missionaries arrived at Bombay, as strangers in a strange land, their circumstances were strange and trying; but Mr. Harvard, as the senior Minister, acted with a kindness and a promptitude which won for him the esteem and confidence of his brethren; and, by the blessing of God, their way was wonderfully opened out before them. On reaching Ceylon it was arranged that Mr. Harvard should occupy Colombo, the head-quarters of the Mission. Being a man of ability, sound judgment, and gentlemanly manners, he was admirably adapted for that important Station. His knowledge of the art of printing, moreover, fitted him in a special manner for the superintendence of the Mission printing-press which was soon afterwards set up there. In this department of Christian labour, as well as in translating the Scriptures, organizing schools, and preaching the Gospel in three or four different languages, Mr. Harvard rendered good service to the Society for several years, until at length the failure of his health obliged him to return to his native land.

After labouring for some time in England, Mr. Harvard was appointed to British North America, where he rendered important official service to the Missionary Society for eleven years, and where he received the honorary degree of D.D. On again returning to England he entered the home work, and as Chairman, Superintendent, Pastor, and friend, he was highly respected and esteemed in all his Circuits. When failing health and increasing infirmities compelled him to relinquish the regular work of the ministry, he for some time filled the office of House Governor at Richmond College, where his experience and influence were made a blessing to the Institution. There he finished his course and entered into the joy of his Lord, on the 15th of December, 1857. The character of Dr. Harvard was distinguished by lowliness and sanctity,—by “whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely.” He was faithful in the exercise of his ministry; “gentle” among the Churches, “even as a nurse cherisheth her children;” esteemed and beloved by



multitudes on both sides of the Atlantic, as well as by the students who were his last charge. The standard of his personal religion was high ; and the affectionate courtesies which never failed to adorn his external deportment flowed from supreme love to Christ, the Friend and Saviour of all. His love to the Mission cause continued to the last, and I have a pleasant and touching recollection of happy personal intercourse with him at several interesting Missionary Anniversaries.

### John Walsh

Was born at Ormskirk, in 1795. He was brought up a Romanist, and his father intended that he should become a Priest; but God in His providence had another kind of work for him to do. Removing to Liverpool he occasionally visited the Methodist chapels ; and, under the ministry of the the Rev. Joseph Entwisle, he was brought to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. He at once became very zealous for the Lord of Hosts, and after passing through the usual preliminary exercises and examinations, he in 1814 entered upon the sacred office of the Christian ministry. For thirty-seven years he discharged the duties of his high calling with diligence, fidelity, and success. He spent nine years as a Missionary in Newfoundland, and was made a blessing to the people among whom he laboured. Amid the dreary regions and trying climate of that cold country he "endured hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ," till his health gave way, and he was obliged to relinquish the foreign work which he so much loved. On his return to England he was appointed to several important Circuits in succession, and was much esteemed as a devoted and laborious servant of the Lord Jesus. His sermons, rich in evangelical truth, were delivered with earnestness, unction, and power. As a Pastor he was affectionate and diligent, paying special attention to the sick and the young. At length his health and strength entirely failed. In a long and very painful affliction he strikingly exhibited the reality and power of personal godliness. Immediately before he died, speech having failed, he waved his hand ; and when his sorrowing wife exclaimed, "Vic-

tory?" he moved his head in token of assent, and then fell asleep in Jesus, on the 19th of December, 1857, in the sixty-third year of his age and the forty-fourth of his ministry.

### John Crofts

Was born in 1798, and converted to God when about seventeen years of age. He was received as a probationer for the ministry in 1820. Soon afterwards he was sent as a Missionary to the West Indies, where he spent fourteen years of earnest, persevering, and successful labour chiefly for the benefit of the Negro race. He made full proof of his ministry, and was instrumental in winning many souls for Christ. At length the tropical climate made a serious impression upon his constitution, and he returned home in feeble health. On his recovery he resumed his ministerial labours; and for eighteen years he discharged the duties of his sacred vocation in his native land. In the spring of 1854 he was laid aside, and compelled to retire into comparative seclusion; but as he was able, he delighted to be engaged in the service of his Divine Master. He was a diligent student and reader in theology. His sermons were distinguished by plain exposition of Divine truth, by simplicity of style, by richness of evangelical sentiment, and by their experimental and practical character; and their delivery was often accompanied with power. As a Pastor he was unremitting, judicious, and kind. His sufferings during the closing years of his life were constant, and often most acute; but they were borne with exemplary patience. He died in peace at Sandbach, on the 31st of December, 1857, in the sixtieth year of his age and the thirty-eighth of his ministry.

### James Lynch

Was a native of the north of Ireland, and in his early days was trained in the superstitions of Romanism. As he grew up to years of maturity the light of Divine truth beamed upon his mind, and he was led to renounce his errors and to trust in the "one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus."

When about seventeen years of age he received the Spirit of adoption and became "a new creature in Christ Jesus." From this time to the close of a protracted life, he humbly walked with God, and exemplified in his whole deportment the beauty of holiness. Having been called to the Christian ministry, and laboured for five years in his native land, he was appointed by the Conference of 1813 as one of the Missionaries who were to accompany Dr. Coke to India. In that country, not being apt in acquiring Oriental languages, he laboured chiefly among the English, civil and military, and the numerous descendants of Europeans who spoke the English tongue. Publicly and from house to house, with zeal and fidelity he proclaimed the whole counsel of God; and many were the seals to his ministry, both in Ceylon and in Continental India. In Madras he was made specially useful; and succeeded in building a beautiful new chapel which he left entirely free from debt. It is stated that his arrival there, in 1817, was the commencement of a new era in the religious history of that city. His statements of religious experience, and especially his distinct enunciations of the direct witness of the Spirit, were such as had never before been heard in that place. His talent for reproving sin was extraordinary; and wherever he went he was hailed as a faithful Minister of Christ. By transparent integrity he won universal confidence. He was a man of an eminently "meek and quiet spirit," gentle, affectionate, and ingenuous; "an Israelite indeed, in whom there was no guile." Yet he always judged himself with extreme severity; and while those who knew him best regarded him as an eminent servant of God, he was in his own estimation "less than the least of all saints." In 1825 he returned to his native land and resumed his labours there. In 1842 he was compelled by increasing physical infirmities to retire from active ministerial duty. The closing years of his life were spent in Leeds, where he had the charge of a large Class, which prospered greatly under his care. To the last he loved to talk and think of India, with ever-ardent desire for the spread of pure Christianity there. As his strength finally failed his faith was unwavering. Although he had not much joy, he had a peaceful, steady, and humble reliance on Christ. He quietly fell asleep in Jesus on the 21st of March, 1858, in the eighty-third year of his age and the fiftieth of his ministry.

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## William Bridgnell

Was the son of a Wesleyan Minister, and received his education at Woodhouse Grove School. He was converted to God in early life, and continued from that time to give clear indications of sincere and unswerving piety. In 1822 he was accepted as a candidate for the ministry. For some months he was greatly depressed by a sense of the responsibility of the work; but at length, in answer to prayer, he became fully assured of his call, and rose above his fears. He then freely offered himself for the Missionary work, and was appointed to Ceylon, where he laboured successfully for twenty-five years. Many of the heathen were brought to a saving knowledge of the truth through his labours. His trials were not few; but in seasons of affliction and domestic bereavement the grace of God abundantly sustained him. The failure of his health at length brought him back to his native land; where, after three years' retirement from active duties, he pursued his sacred calling with zeal and diligence until within a short period of his decease.

In all the Circuits which he occupied, Mr. Bridgnell was greatly esteemed and beloved by his brethren in the ministry and the people of his charge. He was a bright example of Christian graces. His experience was remarkably even, and his life was a commentary on "perfecting holiness in the fear of God." He spent much time in prayer, and in reading the word of God; and his petitions were remarkable for copiousness, adaptation to circumstances, and strength of confidence in God. In his character various elements—not usually found in combination—were finely blended. He was truly humble, yet possessed of real dignity; meek and patient under trials, yet firmly maintaining right and truth; simple and guileless as a child, yet endowed with the moral courage of a man. As a colleague he was singularly frank, generous, and affectionate. His sermons were valuable expositions of the word of God, and were the means of converting sinners and of building up believers in the faith and hope of the Gospel. Soon after the Conference of 1857 he retired to his daughter's house in Edinburgh for rest and medical advice. But human aid was vain; and after a short period it became evident that his work on earth was done. In these six-

circumstances he wrote of his spiritual condition as follows: "Thank God for my perfect peace of mind amidst long-continued weakness and pain. My soul is still trusting in God. I calmly cast myself on the boundless love and mercy of my heavenly Father. Come, Lord Jesus, grant me a quiet release." To the Rev. R. S. Hardy, who saw him on the evening of his decease, he said: "I have no rapture, no ecstasy; but peace, unbroken peace." His prayer was answered. At midnight on the 19th of April, 1858, he fell asleep in Jesus, in the fifty-eighth year of his age and the thirty-sixth of his ministry.

## John Wiggins

Was born at Redhill, near Belturbet, in the county of Cavan, on the 1st of May, 1777. In his eighteenth year, while listening to a powerful sermon, he was brought into bitter anguish of soul on account of sin. By faith in Christ he obtained mercy, and consequent peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. Soon after he was appointed a Leader, and began to preach. Dr. Coke passing through the country, and pressing the condition and claims of the West India Negroes on the congregation, asked, "Who will go for us?" Young Wiggins, thinking that, slender as were his gifts, he might be able to preach to the untutored blacks, offered his services, saying, "Here am I, send me." He was accordingly accepted, ordained, and sent as a Missionary to the West Indies. The sphere of his labours was in the island of Jamaica, where he spent twelve years, and had fever seven times. Simplicity and godly sincerity, with the absence of fleshly wisdom, were among his leading characteristics. He was modest and retiring, yet bold and courageous when occasion required. He was thrown into prison in Jamaica, for resisting an iniquitous law passed by the Colonial Legislature, which abridged the religious liberty of the Negroes. "But the word of God was not bound:" he preached constantly to his fellow-prisoners. When, after a fortnight's confinement, the authorities sent to have him released, he refused to leave the prison till they should come themselves and bring him out, which they did.

On his return to Ireland, Mr. Wiggins laboured with much assiduity and fidelity for twelve years. As in early life he had

trial of bonds and imprisonment, so in later years he approved himself as a Minister of God in much patience and affliction. As his end drew near, his faith was strong, his spirit calm, and his prospect bright. He exchanged the labours, conflicts, and sufferings of earth for the rest of heaven, on the 19th of May, 1858, in the eighty-second year of his age and the fifty-first of his ministry.

### William Williams

Was born at Plymouth in the year 1819, and converted to God in early life. Having removed to Bermuda, he there became actively engaged in the work of the Lord; and, discovering promising talents, in 1846, he was received into the service of the Wesleyan Society as an Assistant Missionary. In this capacity he laboured diligently for several years in the Bahamas, Hayti, St. Vincent's, and Tobago. It was in the island last named that he was attacked with the fever which in a short time proved fatal. He died in peace, on the 18th of August, 1858, in the thirty-ninth year of his age and the twelfth of his ministry.

### Edward Johnston

Was born near Lisleen, in the county of Tyrone, Ireland. He was early led to a knowledge of salvation by faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Having for a while filled the office of Local Preacher, he was, in the year 1809, called into the full work of the ministry, in which for many years he maintained an honourable and useful position. For some time he was the faithful and zealous companion of the Rev. Gideon Ouseley in the Irish Mission. He was afterwards appointed a Missionary to Upper Canada, where he laboured for some years with zeal and diligence. On his return to his native land he re-entered the Irish work, and continued to labour faithfully as before until 1844, when his health failed and he was obliged to retire as a Supernumerary. In this capacity he was ever ready to render such assistance as his health would permit. The greater part of his family having

emigrated to the United States of America, he obtained permission of the Conference to follow them to the land of their adoption. He soon became known to his Transatlantic brethren, and stood deservedly high in their confidence and esteem, while he retained unabated his attachment to Irish Methodism. His gifts as a Preacher were of no mean order. His power in prayer was great, and gave indication of habitual communion with God. His sermons were truly evangelical, and were remarkable for pathos and power. He closed his mortal career somewhat suddenly at New Albany, Indiana, on the 26th of August, 1858, in the eighty-first year of his age and the fiftieth of his ministry. His last utterances gave token of his unwavering faith in Christ and love for his brethren.

### Edward Jonathan Hardey

Was born at Barrow, in Lincolnshire, on the 30th of December, 1817. His parents were godly Methodists; and to their training and example are to be attributed, under God, his early piety, active zeal, and ardent attachment to the doctrines and discipline of Methodism. On being accepted as a candidate for the ministry, he entered the Theological Institution at Hoxton, where he spent two happy years. To this privilege he often referred in after life with delight and thankfulness. Having offered himself for foreign service, and been appointed to the Mysore District, in 1842 he embarked for India, and entered upon his work in the true Missionary spirit. With the exception of a year spent in visiting England, he continued to labour in India to the time of his death. He entered readily and heartily into every plan for the promotion of the kingdom of God, in the service of which he rejoiced to "spend and be spent." His work and its prosperity were his joy. His boldness in assailing heathenism, and in preaching Christ to scoffing and raging congregations, was often remarkable. In this work he especially gloried. His deep horror of the abominations of Hinduism rendered his preaching intensely practical. He engaged most earnestly in a plan set on foot for circulating the word of God in those districts which had seldom or never been visited by Missionaries, and set out with the Rev. T. Hodson on the first

tour for this purpose. At every place visited he laboured as if he could not do enough, and could never know fatigue. They arrived at Shiva Samudra on the 24th of November, 1858. Mr. Hardey preached there in the evening. Next morning he felt unwell. The attack proved to be a severe form of cholera, which in the course of a few hours proved fatal. Thus the last messenger came at an hour unexpected, and the servant of God "ceased at once to work and live."

Mr. Hardey was a man of amiable disposition,—frank, cheerful, kind and generous. He was charitable and affectionate towards his brethren, and easily accessible to the humblest of his flock, patiently considering their wants and aiding them to the utmost of his power. He was instrumental in winning many souls for Christ, who will be his "joy and the crown of his rejoicing in the day of the Lord."

### Walter Lawry

Was converted to God in early life, and soon after his conversion began to preach. As a Preacher he was remarkably popular from the beginning, attracting, when a mere youth, large congregations of admiring hearers. He was accepted as a candidate for the ministry by the Conference of 1817; and, nobly offering himself for the foreign work, he was soon afterwards sent out as a Missionary to New South Wales. When that colony was in its infancy he did good service in the cause of Methodism and true religion, first as the assistant of the devoted Samuel Leigh, and afterwards when that zealous Missionary had removed to other fields of labour. In 1823 Mr. Lawry proceeded to Tonga, and attempted the establishment of a Wesleyan Mission in the Friendly Islands; and, although the effort failed of its object at that time, from the unsettled state of the savage and warlike natives, it no doubt prepared the way for the successful renewal of the attempt a few years afterwards.

Owing to the failure of his health, Mr. Lawry returned to England in 1825, and re-entered the home work, in which he laboured for several years with his wonted acceptance and success. In 1843 he again offered himself for foreign service, and was appointed as General Superintendent of Wesleyan Mis-



## MEMORIAL SKETCHES OF

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sions in New Zealand, and Visitor of those in Polynesia. This arduous and responsible office he filled for eleven years with great diligence and fidelity, visiting the distant parts of his charge at great sacrifice of personal convenience, and at considerable risk of health and life. The journals of these visits, which were published from time to time in the "Missionary Notices," and afterwards in a separate volume, are of thrilling interest, and may still be read with advantage and profit by the friends of the Missionary enterprise.

After a long and useful career Mr. Lawry retired as a Supernumerary in 1854, with the full confidence of the Missionary Committee and the hearty sympathy and love of many to whom he had been made an instrument of good. In Paramatta, New South Wales, to which place he removed on relinquishing his important charge in New Zealand, he was received by a large circle of warmly-attached friends. In his declining years he was visited by severe domestic affliction and the loss of sight; but he was enabled by Divine grace meekly to submit to the painful dispensation. At length the last messenger came to relieve him from his sufferings; and the venerable servant of God died in peace on the 30th of March, 1859, in the sixty-sixth year of his age and the forty-second of his ministry.

### Jabez Hulbert

Was a truly pious and devoted young man. Having been accepted by the Conference as a candidate for the ministry, and having offered himself for foreign service, he was sent out as a Missionary to Western Africa towards the close of the year 1858. After labouring for a few months at Sierra Leone with acceptance and success, he was seized with malignant fever, and suddenly called to his eternal reward. He died in peace at Free Town, on the 1st of April, 1859, deeply regretted by all who knew him.

### John Haigh

Was born at Leeds in 1795, and brought to God in early life through the instrumentality of Mr. William Dawson. In 1816

he was received into the Wesleyan ministry, and sent out as a Missionary to Newfoundland. In that bleak and dreary country he laboured for twenty-one years with zeal, diligence, and success. During that period he occupied some of the most prominent and important Circuits of the District with credit to himself and with advantage to the cause to which his life was devoted. On every Station he was favoured to see the fruit of his labour; and in one instance great numbers were awakened and added to the Lord. Owing to the severity of the climate and other circumstances Missionary labour was prosecuted in Newfoundland at that early period under privations and hardships of no ordinary kind. But these were borne by Mr. Haigh with uncomplaining and even cheerful submission, although they made a lasting impression upon his constitution. In 1837 he was nominated Chairman of the Bahama District; but the state of his health rendered it necessary for him to return to England; and he soon afterwards entered the home work. He spent eighteen years in various Circuits in his native land. He was a man of clear and vigorous thought, and a highly practical and earnest Preacher. His acquaintance with theology was exact, and his pulpit exercises were the result of careful and diligent preparation. His last affliction was severe, but not prolonged. His mind was graciously sustained, and he experienced the full power of the Gospel which he had so long proclaimed. He suddenly sank into paralysis, and after lingering speechless for two days, died on the 2nd of May, 1859, in the sixty-fourth year of his age and the forty-third of his ministry.

### James Cox

Was a native of Bermuda, where he was brought to a saving knowledge of God in early life through the instrumentality of the Wesleyan Missionaries. Soon after his conversion it became evident that the Lord had a work for him to do in His vineyard. He was accepted by the Conference of 1823, and forthwith appointed to a Station in the Antigua District; and he entered upon his work in a manner which gave good promise of success. Writing to the General Secretaries under date of October 4th,

1827, he says : " After preaching and catechising on the estates, I stop the Society, and question each member particularly on inward religion, their observance of the Lord's day, the government of their children, their attendance at the house of God, private prayer, family religion, forgiveness of injuries, payment of debts, various relative duties, dress, the Lord's Supper, and many other subjects relating to the life of God in the soul, and their daily walk with Him ; and thus I instruct each in the things relating to the kingdom of heaven. The satisfaction I feel in this duty is inexpressible. It is unquestionably the great work of a Missionary, and without it, from various hindrances, we can never expect much piety or stability in our members."

Being favoured with a strong constitution and general good health, Mr. Cox was for a long series of years enabled to undertake an amount of labour in the West India Islands to which few other men would have been equal. During those years he occupied several important Stations, and for a considerable part of the time filled the office of Chairman of the District. As a Preacher he was highly acceptable and useful, and his name will long be remembered with pleasure on the Stations where he laboured. He took a lively interest in the Temperance Reformation, and was the means of mitigating one of the greatest hindrances to the spread of the Gospel in foreign lands. Some untoward circumstances having occurred in Antigua which tended to mar his comfort and usefulness, he was removed, in 1856, to Jamaica, where he had not laboured long when the Master called him. He died in peace at Morant Bay, on the 30th of May, 1859, in the thirty-sixth year of his ministry. His remains were conveyed to their last resting-place by his sorrowing brethren ; followed by a large concourse of sincere mourners.

### John Bridgart

Had a brief Missionary career which was full of interest. He entered the Wesleyan ministry in the year 1853, and, offering himself for the foreign work, at once received an appointment to the Gambia Station, in Western Africa. He sailed from Ply-

mouth on Tuesday, the 25th of October, and after a somewhat boisterous passage of fifteen days, arrived at his destination in safety. Writing to the General Secretaries on the 15th of November, he says : " I am very much pleased with all that I have seen here, particularly with our chapels, congregations, and schools, which far surpass my expectations. On the evening of the day on which I arrived I preached my first sermon to an African congregation, principally members of the Society, in the school-room where our week-evening services are held. On Sunday morning I preached in the principal chapel here ; was much blessed in my own soul, and felt that the Lord was with me ; as was also the case in the evening, when I preached in the chapel at New Town. There are many fresh doors of usefulness opening around us ; and everything in connection with God's cause here seems to be of a most encouraging character. I believe I shall be very happy here. I have afresh consecrated myself fully to God, and, while He is pleased to give me health and strength, I am determined by His grace to work for Him, and to live to His glory."

In this spirit Mr. Bridgart, aided by his devoted wife in the Mission schools, had laboured at the Gambia for about five years, including a short visit to his native land, when he was requested by the Missionary Committee to proceed to Sierra Leone to take charge of the District as Chairman and General Superintendent in a case of emergency. With a cheerfulness and a promptitude worthy of the highest commendation, the zealous Missionary proceeded to his new Station to assume his important and responsible position. He arrived at Free Town in the month of December, 1858 ; but it was soon discovered that his health and constitution were too much impaired by previous labours to admit of his continuing much longer at his arduous post of duty. He, moreover, lost his devoted wife by death soon after he reached Sierra Leone. During the early part of the following year he had repeated attacks of fever, which his emaciated frame was but ill prepared to resist. At length it was deemed advisable that he should once more try a change of climate, and he accordingly embarked for England. On his voyage home he called at St. Mary's, on the River Gambia, but he was too ill to go on shore. Mr. Cooper, his friend and former colleague, visited him, and continued with him as long as

the vessel remained in port. He was then in a most happy state of mind, resting peacefully on the great Atonement. On leaving the Gambia the poor sufferer gradually became worse; and he died at sea on the 24th of June, 1859. His remains were solemnly committed to the deep, in sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection to eternal life, when the "sea shall give up the dead that are in it."

### Richard Cooper

Was the son of a Wesleyan Minister of the same name. Having given his heart to God in early life, he was in due time called to the sacred office. He was received on probation by the Conference of 1857, and shortly afterwards sailed for Western Africa, where his heart strongly prompted him to go as a Missionary to the poor Negroes. He laboured for a short time at St. Mary's, on the River Gambia, with zeal, fidelity, and success; and, when called away by a fatal attack of the fever so common in that country, he left behind him a good report with reference both to his character and his work. He died in great peace at Bathurst, on the 13th of August, 1859, in the twenty-sixth year of his age and the third of his probation for the ministry.

### William Hudson

Was born at Baldock, Hertfordshire, in the year 1813. From his childhood he was influenced by the fear of God, his parents being devoted Methodists. In 1825 he yielded his heart to God by a penitential trust in Christ. He commenced his work as a Wesleyan Minister in 1837; and, after labouring four years in England, he offered himself for the foreign work. Having received an appointment to the West Indies, he left his native land in 1841, and, for the period of sixteen years, laboured with zeal and diligence on various Stations in the St. Vincent's and Demerara Districts. It was there that I became acquainted with him, and I can testify, from personal observation, to his entire devotedness to the work in which he was engaged. He was a man of cultivated mind and sound

judgment, a diligent student, a practical and useful Preacher, a judicious Superintendent, and an active Pastor. Nor did he labour in vain. His earnest efforts in the cause of Christ were crowned with a cheering measure of success on several of the Stations which he occupied. He returned to England in 1858, his health being much impaired by arduous labours in the tropics. He still entertained the hope, however, that after a brief repose he would be able to resume his beloved work in his own country. During the period of rest, he preached as much as his strength would permit, and advocated the cause of Christian Missions with ability, earnestness, and success. At the Conference of 1859 he was appointed to the Newtown Circuit, Montgomeryshire, and he still ardently anticipated a lengthened period of future usefulness; but he was suddenly called from the Church militant below to join the Church triumphant above, before he had fairly entered upon his new sphere of labour. He died on the 2nd of September, 1859, in the forty-sixth year of his age and the twenty-third of his ministry.

## William Ingram

Was for some time a student in the Hoxton Theological Institution; and, in 1839, he received an appointment as a Missionary to the West Indies. He laboured for five years in the islands of Nevis and Antigua with acceptance and success, and, on returning to England, in 1844, he entered the home work. During the following thirteen years he laboured in several important Circuits in different parts of his native land. In 1857 circumstances led to his removal to South Australia, when he became a member of the Australasian Wesleyan Methodist Connexion. He had spent only about two years in Adelaide South Circuit, where he was greatly beloved, when he was suddenly smitten down by the hand of death in the midst of his usefulness, and called to his heavenly rest, on the 2nd of September, 1859.

In communicating the mournful intelligence of this affecting event a few days afterwards to the Missionary Committee in London, the Rev. William Butters says: "On the preceding Sunday Mr. Ingram preached morning and evening in our new and beautiful chapel at North Adelaide, and in the afternoon had a service in the open air. He had been throwing himself

into his work with more than even his ordinary energy for some time before his death ; and at the last week-evening service that he ever attended, he stated that the past week had been the happiest of his life. Within about three hours of his ceasing to be conscious I was with him, and, without any apprehension of immediate danger, I felt that there was a sacredness in our interview which I could scarcely comprehend. I arranged to see him again the next day ; but about midnight I was sent for to see him die. Just before he became unconscious he repeated with great distinctness and accuracy Hebrews vi. 17-20, and soon afterwards passed away to be for ever with the Lord." Mr. Ingram was greatly respected in South Australia, and his funeral was one of the largest ever seen in the colony. To this day his memory is cherished with much affection by many who were benefited by his able and instructive ministry.

### John C. George

Was born at Roxton, Bedfordshire, in 1803. Converted in early youth, he heard the Divine voice which had called him out of darkness into the marvellous light of the Gospel, bidding him go forth with the light to others. The call pointed to other lands than his own ; and, after two years of home work, he went forth as a Missionary to Ceylon, where he laboured faithfully and efficiently during eleven years. He returned to England, and resumed the home work in 1839, and continued in it till within a few weeks of his death, although often suffering from the disease which at length ended his earthly course. By those who knew him best he was esteemed for his kindness of heart, and his gentlemanly courtesy. In his last illness his sufferings were severe ; but they were borne with patience and unhesitating faith in the goodness and wisdom of God. "I am in good hands," he remarked on one occasion, "for life or death. Father, Thy will be done." Again he observed, "Christ is precious within. Heaven is bright. All is well." His last words, uttered at intervals, were : "Precious faith ; precious faith. Lord, increase my faith." He soon afterwards passed from faith to sight. He died in Glasgow, on Sunday, the 4th of September, 1859, in the fifty-seventh year of his age and the thirty-sixth of his ministry.

## John De Putron

Spent the first ten years of his Missionary life in Canada among the French Canadians and British settlers. Whilst earnestly endeavouring to make known to them the good news of salvation, he endured many hardships ; but he considered it a high honour to suffer and to toil in so good a cause. He afterwards laboured with a good degree of success in the French Circuits of the Channel Islands, until 1852, when he was obliged by advancing years and increasing infirmities to retire as a Supernumerary. During subsequent years, as far as his strength permitted, he was unceasingly useful, especially in visiting the poor and the afflicted. His last illness was protracted and severe ; so that his sufferings, added to a constitutional depression of mind, contributed, for a while, to cast a gloom over his experience. But, toward the end of his career, the clouds dispersed ; and his confidence was to the last strong and uninterrupted. His dying testimony was to the following effect : " All my hope is in Christ, and in Him alone. I have no doubt of my acceptance in my Redeemer ; and, although deprived of joy, I have strong confidence." He departed this life in Guernsey, his native island, on the 21st of September, 1859, in the seventy-first year of his age and the forty-fifth of his ministry.

## Joseph Biggs

Is believed to have been a native of Bath, where he was induced to give his heart to God in his youth. My first acquaintance with him was in London, where I met him as a candidate for the ministry in the latter part of the year 1830. He soon afterwards embarked for the West Indies in company with the Rev. John and Mrs. Martin who were then returning to the sphere of their former labours. From that time to the time of his death, with the exception of two years spent in England, he laboured faithfully as a Missionary on different Stations in the St. Vincent's and Demerara Districts. I had the pleasure of being associated with him for several years, and can bear my testimony from personal observation as to his simple piety, fervent zeal, and full devotion to the service of



Christ. He was unassuming and amiable in his manners, and altogether unselfish in his aims ; and his catholic and generous disposition secured the respect and esteem of all classes of the community. His pulpit ministrations were plain and practical rather than brilliant or showy ; and, by industry and perseverance as a Pastor, he rendered himself both acceptable and useful.

The letters which I received from time to time afforded ample proof that his labours were not in vain in the Lord. Writing from Barbadoes under date of September 18th, 1838, he says : "In Bridge Town we have had about two hundred candidates for Church-membership during the last nine months, and our chapels are becoming too small to accommodate the congregations which flock together to hear the word, especially on Sabbath evenings. We held our Anniversary Missionary Meeting at James Street chapel on the 20th proximo, and it was considered a grand success. The attendance was large, and the collections amounted to upwards of £20."

Mr. Biggs had laboured happily and usefully with few interruptions from sickness for nearly thirty years when his health failed. Medical aid was tried in vain ; and after suffering for some time he died in peace at Kingstown, St. Vincent's, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, much regretted by his brethren and the people of his charge.

### Thomas Dove

Was a native of Farleigh, near Maidstone. He was converted to God in youth ; and, having been employed for some time as a Local Preacher, he was encouraged by Dr. Adam Clarke to offer himself as a Missionary to the heathen. He was accordingly accepted as a candidate for the ministry, and forthwith received an appointment as a Missionary to the Gambia in Western Africa. I saw him there for the first time, as he landed on the shore of St. Mary's, accompanied by his excellent wife and the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Fox, on the 23rd of April, 1833. During the few weeks which we spent together on that occasion I received a very favourable impression of the piety, zeal, and devotedness of my esteemed friend, which was afterwards confirmed.



REV. THOMAS DOVE.

MISSIONARY TO SIERRA LEONE.

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Mr. Dove commenced his labours at Macarthy's Island, in the Upper Gambia, in the true Missionary spirit; and for several years both there and at Sierra Leone, as General Superintendent of Missions, he did good service for the Society, and in the cause of African civilization. His pulpit ministrations and other services were rendered a great blessing to the liberated Africans and others; and it is believed that in the last great day many precious souls will be found among the ransomed of the Lord as the fruits of his labours.

After his final return from the coast of Africa, with his health much impaired, Mr. Dove rested for a while, and then went out to Gibraltar, where he spent two years in ministering chiefly to British soldiers. He was subsequently appointed to several Circuits at home, in each of which he was much esteemed and made very useful. In the spring of 1858 his health began to fail, and he retired to Croydon for rest and medical aid. He continued to sink during that and the following year; and on the 1st of December, 1859, he peacefully expired, in the fifty-ninth year of his age and the twenty-sixth of his ministry. In his last affliction there was a natural clinging to life; but he expressed a pious resignation to the Divine will. "In my weakness," he said, "I feel the salvation I have offered to others to be my present consolation. 'The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin.'"

### Amice Ollivier

Was born in Alderney in the year 1779. At the early age of seven he was the subject of religious impressions; but it was not until he had reached the age of seventeen that he was converted to God. From this time to the close of his protracted life he adorned his Christian profession without wavering. He entered the ministry in 1802, and laboured with great fidelity till 1840, when increasing weakness compelled him to retire as a Supernumerary.

In the early part of his public life he was employed as a Missionary to the prisoners of war in England; and at a later period he spent a few years in the west of France, where his labours were owned of God in the salvation of souls. With these exceptions the Channel Islands were the sphere of his evangelical

labours for half a century. As a zealous Missionary to his benighted fellow-countrymen and others, he took a prominent part in laying the foundation of that great and glorious work which has since become so wide-spread and prosperous. His quiet zeal, perseverance, and Christian virtues commanded the high esteem of his brethren in the ministry and of the Church in general. He was remarkable, moreover, for great simplicity of manners, for self-denial, and deadness to the world. He seemed to live as on the threshold of eternity. He was "an Israelite indeed, in whom" was "no guile." He appeared in the pulpit as a faithful messenger of his Lord. His style of preaching resembled that of the first race of Methodist Preachers; rich in experience, simple in delivery, yet fervent and convincing.

Living as in the presence of God, in daily readiness for his solemn change, Mr. Ollivier was found by the last messenger with his loins girt and his lamp burning. Of him it may be said, with almost literal accuracy, that "he ceased at once to work and live," as he preached but a week before his death. During his last days, while his Lord seemed to delay His coming, he manifested a strong "desire to depart and to be with Christ." He was heard fervently saying, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation." And again: "Let Thy will be done." "I am going to my God," he sweetly added, "and to my Saviour, Who hath redeemed me from all iniquity, and made me a king and a priest unto God and His Father for ever." "Worthy is the Lamb! Hallelujah!" This much beloved Minister died on the 30th of January, 1860, after an influential ministry of nearly fifty-eight years.

### James Dunbar

Was a native of Kibblesworth, in the county of Durham. In early life he was brought to a saving knowledge of the truth by means of a sermon preached by the Rev. Miles Martindale, on the words: "If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?" (Jer. xii.

5.) Having been called to the work of the ministry in 1806, and after labouring five years in England and Scotland, Mr. Dunbar was sent as a Missionary to Bermuda. He afterwards laboured for some time in British North America, and then again in the West Indies. At length in 1853 he returned to his native land, where he laboured in several Circuits with success. His preaching was plain, clear, pointed, and thoroughly evangelical. He always aimed more at usefulness than popularity ; and he was diligent as a Pastor in visiting the people from house to house. He was compelled by increasing years and infirmities to retire as a Supernumerary several years before his death ; but he was ever ready to render such service as his strength would permit, both in Kendal and Alnwick where he resided. In his last affliction, which was severe and protracted, he was favoured with gracious manifestations of the Divine presence ; and he assured his family and others that he was on the Rock, Christ Jesus the Lord. His end was peace. He died on the 16th of February, 1860, in the eightieth year of his age and the fifty-fourth of his ministry.

### William Griffith

Was born in the year 1777 ; and when he was about twenty years of age he was converted to God and joined the Methodist Society. He exercised his gifts in London for some time as a Local Preacher. In this capacity he was very useful, especially in connection with the "Christian Community" (a useful association for evangelical effort among the poor, and for visiting workhouses). In 1808 he was induced to offer himself for foreign Missionary work, and was appointed to Gibraltar. There he laboured with much zeal and usefulness, especially among the military, for three years. On his return to England he entered the home work, and occupied several Circuits with credit to himself and advantage to the people. He became a Supernumerary in 1850. He was a useful Preacher and a diligent Pastor. The severe and complicated affliction which closed his life was endured with calm resignation, and sometimes even with cheerfulness. He entered into rest on the 24th of February, 1860, triumphantly happy in God.

## John Willis

Was a native of Gloucestershire ; but, whilst yet a youth, he removed to Shrewsbury, where he was converted to God in his eighteenth year, under the ministry of the Rev. Valentine Ward. After some time he deeply felt that he was called to the ministry of the Gospel ; and having offered himself for Missionary service, he was ordained by the venerable Dr. Coke, and sailed from Liverpool to the West Indies in the year 1807. During seven years he laboured earnestly and successfully in that arduous field of evangelical effort, occupying Stations in Nevis, Grenada, St. Kitt's, Dominica, and Antigua ; and then he returned to England in consequence of the failure of his health. In the home work he spent thirty-five years in various Circuits, in each of which he was esteemed very highly in love for his work's sake, and for the many amiable qualities which he possessed. He never lost his love for the Mission cause, but was ever ready to advocate its claims both in the pulpit and on the platform. The evening of Mr. Willis's ministerial life was spent at Shirley, near Southampton ; where he resided for ten years, preaching as opportunity was afforded.

He was a man of simple and unostentatious manners, but of sterling excellence. His piety was thoughtful and deep ; his habits were studious ; his deportment in society consistent and unblemished ; while his soundness of judgment, and firmness of principle, rendered him a valuable friend and associate in pastoral duty. He was looked up to by all classes with respect and esteem as a venerable and devoted servant of the Lord Jesus ; and universal regret was felt when he was obliged, by peculiar domestic circumstances, to remove to Bishop Auckland. There the summons to his Master's presence found him ready ; and in the exhaustion of his last brief illness, he testified of the preciousness of Christ, and of the peace and joy which His Spirit inspired. He fell asleep in Jesus on the 27th of June, 1860, in the seventy-eighth year of his age and the fifty-third of his ministry.

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